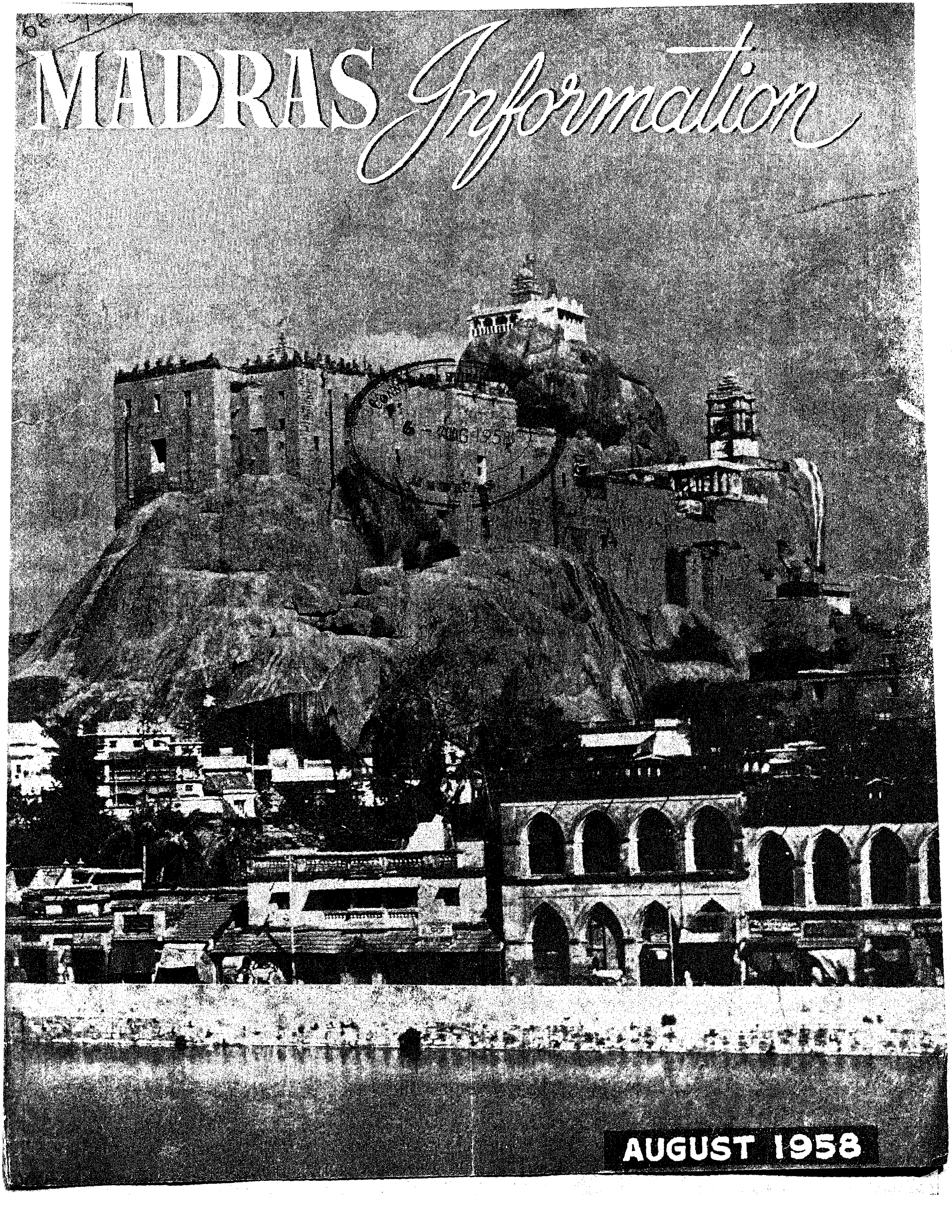
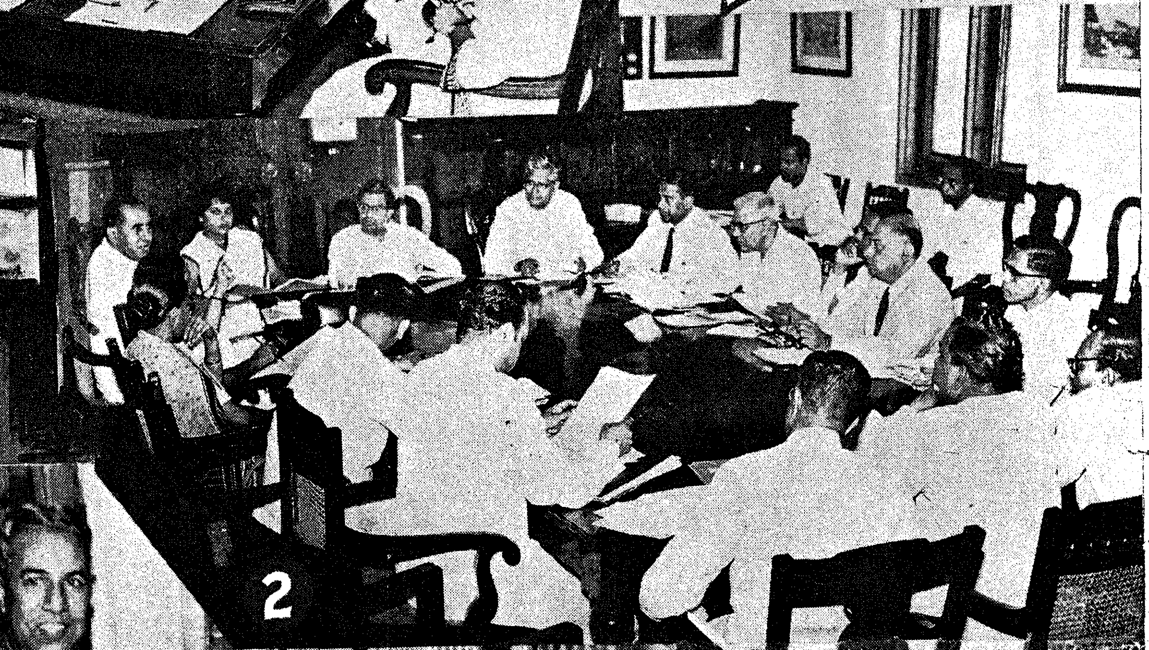
MADRAS Information



AUGUST 1958

1. *Smt. Tarkeshwari Sinha, Union Deputy Minister for Finance, participated in the meeting of the State Advisory Board, Women's Savings Campaign, during her stay in the City in the first week of July.*



2. *With the Small-Savings ate Advisory Committee.*

3. *Opening a Savings Bureau at the Regional National Savings Office.*

4. *At the Press Conference.*

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Cover page:

The Rockfort Temple at Tiruchirappalli.

MADRAS INFORMATION

6 - AUG 1958
MADRAS

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6 - AUG 1958
MADRAS

Madras in the Path of Planned Progress

SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM, Minister for Finance.

The Second Five-Year Plan as drawn up for Madras State, six months prior to the States Reorganisation, in 1956, envisaged a total five-year outlay of Rs.173·06 crores; after reorganisation, the total outlay was fixed at Rs. 152·27 crores. In the first year, the expenditure was of the order of Rs. 28·14 crores, while in the second year, it went up to Rs. 32·31 crores. A budget provision has been made for an expenditure of Rs. 30·47 crores in 1958–59. Irrigation and power projects have been given top priority with a provision of Rs. 6,559 lakhs out of the plan allotment, while schemes of agriculture including Community Development will account for Rs. 2,915 lakhs. Other allotments are: Industry—Rs. 1,336 lakhs; Roads—Rs. 679 lakhs; Education—Rs. 1,154 lakhs; Medical—Rs. 1,435 lakhs; Housing—Rs. 287 lakhs; Harijan Welfare—Rs. 506 lakhs; Labour Welfare—Rs. 59 lakhs; Social and Women's Welfare—Rs. 75 lakhs; Miscellaneous schemes—Rs. 219 lakhs.

Food Production.

We have fixed a target of 12·79 lakhs tons of additional foodgrains by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan period. The results of the first two years' production indicate that this target is capable of achievement. Various schemes of the Second Plan are responsible for this satisfactory situation. The emphasis was laid on introducing better methods of agricultural production and in extending such methods to as large an area as possible. Secondly, better seeds were evolved and distributed extensively. One-hundred and seventy-four seed farms, each in a 25-acre plot, have been opened till the end of March 1958 for raising primary seeds which in turn are given to villages for multiplication in village seed farms. By this method, 85 per cent of the total seed requirements of the State have been met.

Other Plan schemes which have aided the increase in food production in the State are popularisation of chemical fertilisers and provision of credit facilities to agriculturists for purchase of these fertilisers and distribution of green manure seeds. Side by side with these schemes, effective pest control measures have been taken to ensure good harvests. Special minor irrigation programmes which are capable of yielding quick results are taken up and executed at the instance of local agricultural officials. One thousand and one hundred such works are under execution in the State. The estimated population of the State is 27,863,000 and the rice eating population is computed at 19,300,000 and the anticipated yield of foodgrains in 1958 is 4,370,000 tons, of which rice alone will be 3,157,000 tons, which could enable the people to use as much as 16 oz. of rice per head per day.

Community Development.

The Community Development movement embraces about two-thirds of the State covering 1·17 crores of the people. One hundred and forty-six blocks have so far been taken up. The deficiencies of Indian agriculture are basically two—firstly the preponderance of small and uneconomic holdings and secondly the average peasant's inability to make the necessary capital investments. Madras is no exception to these drawbacks. The schemes in the co-operative field have been specially designed to meet the second of the deficiencies noted above. By the end of March 1959, Madras will have as many as 300 agricultural banks. Further, 200 small sized societies and 5 land mortgage banks are also to be formed during this year, so that 80 per cent of the villages could be provided with loan facilities and the percentage of people benefiting by these facilities can go up to 40. It is proposed to place at the disposal of agriculturists, an amount of Rs. 13·5 crores in form of credit facilities.

Co-operative Farming.

The problem of uneconomic holdings however is a very complicated one touching as it does the prestige and social importance of individuals; but a solution has to be found. Co-operative farming offers perhaps the least disturbing solution. This has been attempted in this State in the form of joint farming societies, four of which are now working. The success of these societies will make for a radical change in the climate of opinion towards this innovation. The Second Five-Year Plan of the State calls for the formation of 10 such societies during the Plan period.

Irrigation Schemes.

The irrigation schemes of the State call for an investment of Rs. 1,222 lakhs, to bring under irrigation 190,279 acres and also stabilise the irrigation facilities for 130,000 acres. Almost all the projects taken up under the Second Plan are continuation schemes of the First Plan and as such, have been completed by March 1958. The major schemes that have been so far completed are the Lower Bhavani, Amaravathi, Sathanur, Krishnagiri and Manimuthar. One happy feature about the irrigation facilities in this State is that the ryots have been making full and prompt use

of the waters let down for irrigation by the costly process of reservoir projects. The projects now in progress are the new Kattalai High Level Channel Scheme, Pullambadi Channel Scheme and the Vidur Reservoir Scheme.

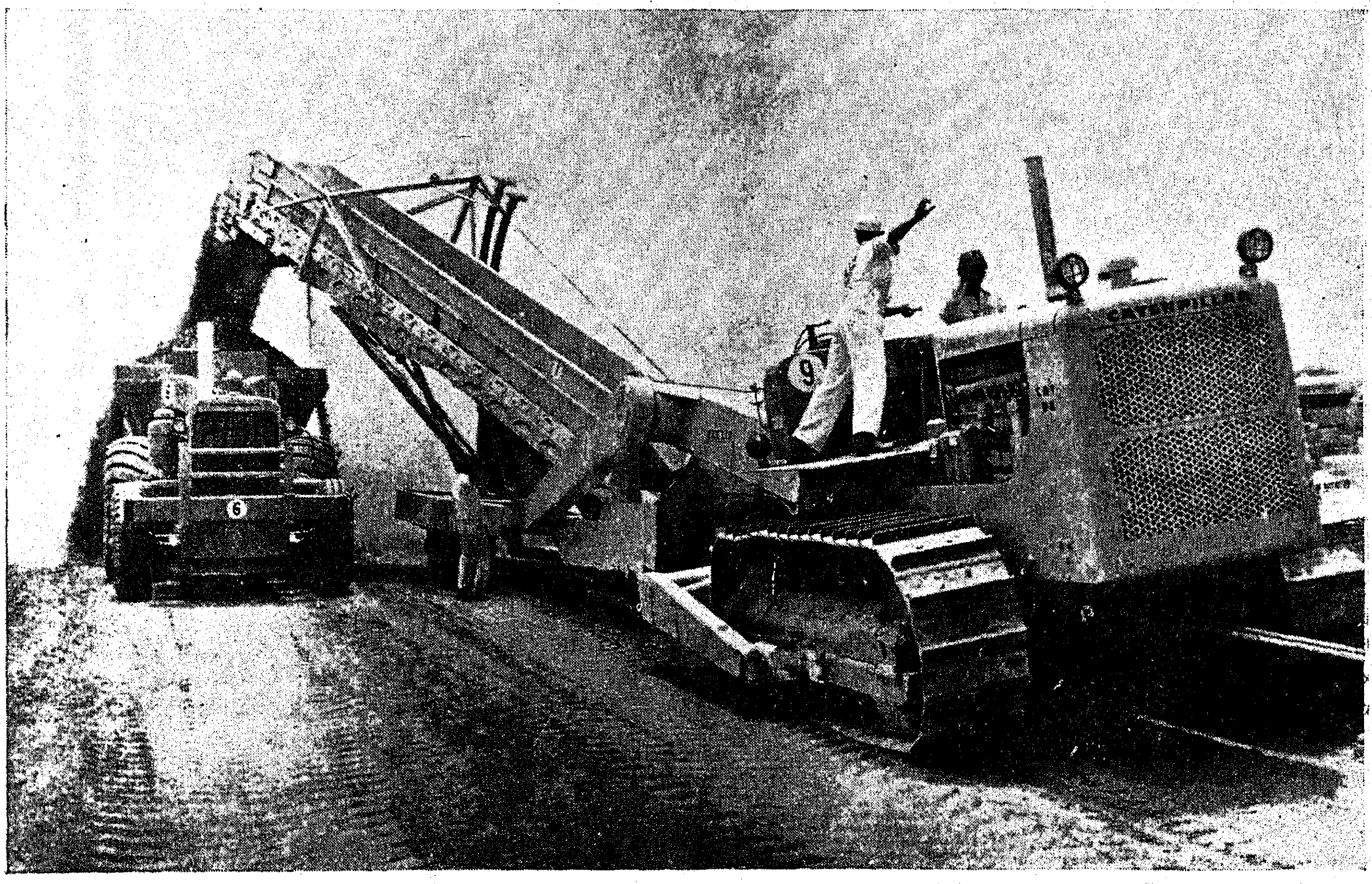
Power.

When the electricity schemes in the Second Plan are completed, the installed capacity, the aggregate demand, units generated and the length of transmission lines in the State will all be more than doubled. The State Electricity Grid is expected to cater power to about 700,000 consumers. In the rural areas, 8,500 villages and 82,000 pumpsets will drive the benefits of electricity. The per capita consumption of electricity which is a recognised index of economic advance of any State and which was 25 units in Madras State at the end of the First Plan period is now 30 units and it is hoped to raise the figure to 60 units by the end of the Second Plan period.

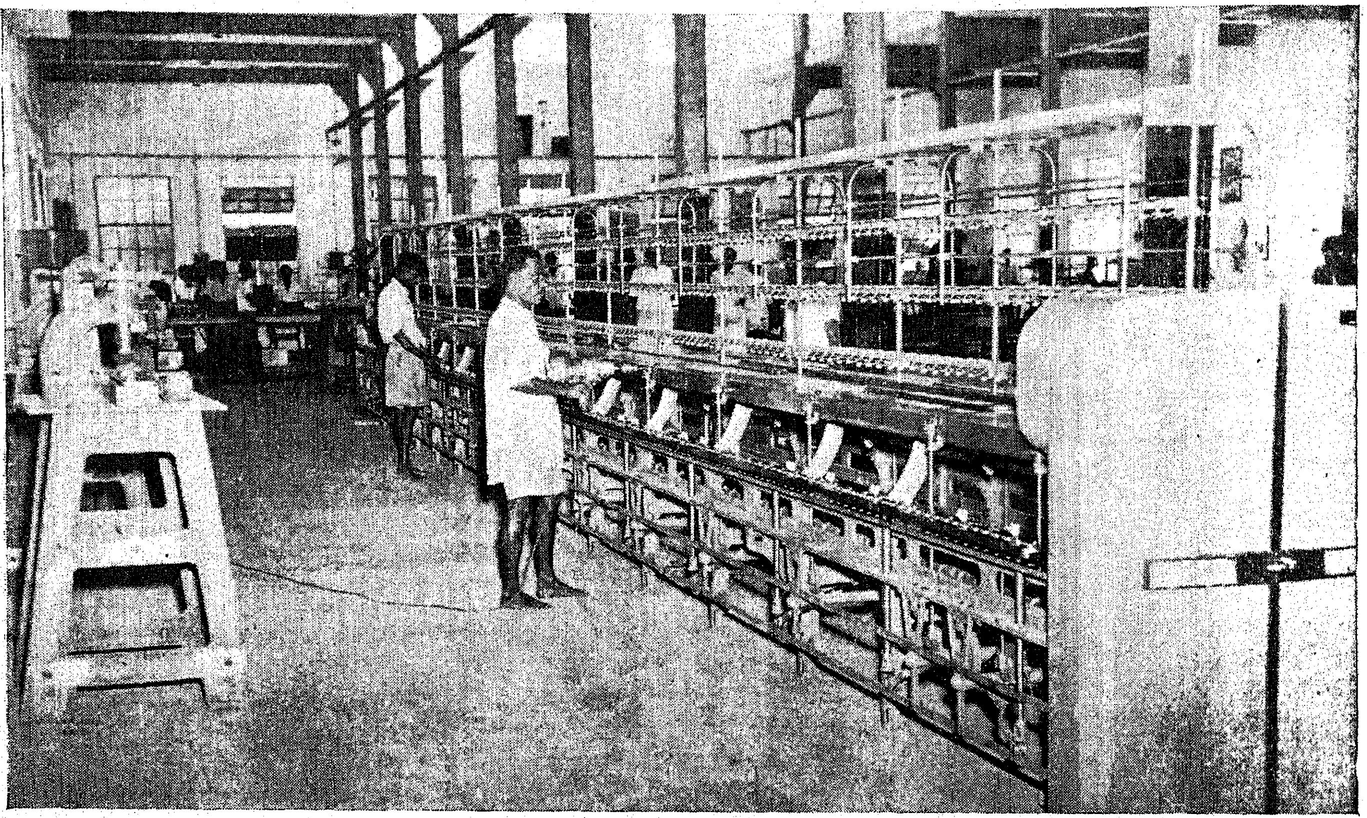
Industries.

The outlook for the industrial expansion of the State has taken a distinct turn for the better with the inauguration of the Integrated Lignite Project at Neyveli. This Project is financed by the Government of India and is executed by a corporate body known as the Lignite Corporation. A sum of Rs. 4 crores was spent during 1956–57 and Rs. 7 crores is proposed to be spent in 1958–59. The Project is expected to yield by the year 1960–61, 200,000 KW. of power and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs tons of carbonised lignite. By the time this cheap and abundant power becomes available, we have to be ready with plans for industries which can be started by utilising the available raw materials.

This task has been left to the State Industries Development Committee, which in its turn has appointed eight sub-committees of eminent experts in several fields of heavy industry, to survey the raw material and other resources in the State and prepare project reports for starting major industries. In the recent past, several new industries have sprung up for the assembly of motor cars and tractors, manufacture of cycles and cycle accessories, refractories, pig iron, steel tubes, synthetic diamonds and rubber tyres, all in the private sector. Active development of small-scale industries is of recent origin in the State and in the Second Five-Year Plan as many as 32 schemes costing Rs. 333 lakhs has been included. Industrially trained young men are helped with specialised servicing facilities and technical guidance



Earth-moving operation at Neyveli.



Industry in the private sector flourishes in this State.

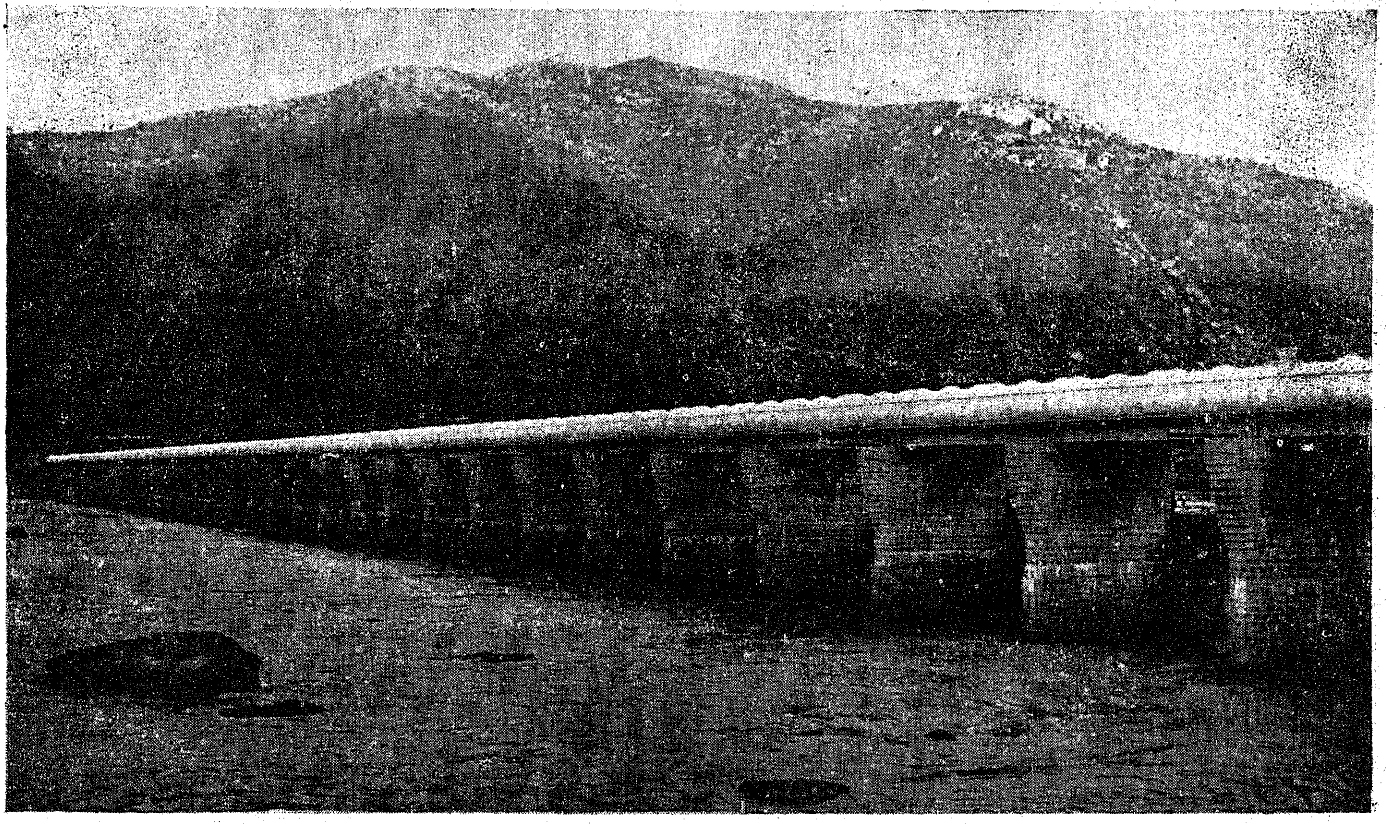
in industrial estates for manufacture of utility articles as well as accessories and spare parts to feed the big industries. This is a promising avenue for the employment of the educated unemployed. It is also proposed to step up the production of consumer goods through cottage industries in order to meet the increasing demand. Naturally the purpose is more important than the product in the case of these industries. The primary purpose is to wean away as many people as possible from the high density agricultural sector and also provide part-time employment to the under-employed in the villages. For the revival of handicrafts and development of village industries, 37 schemes costing Rs. 274 lakhs have been approved for implementation in the Plan period. Almost all these schemes have been established and are now in the production stage. Steps have also been taken to evaluate the cost of production in these industries and assess their capacity to become self-supporting, once State help is withdrawn. The ultimate object is that all these industries should work as industrial co-operatives with the artisans engaged in them as members. These industrial co-operatives are being formed by the Industries Department itself. The products of these village industries and handicraft are to be sold through 11 district emporia to be established in all the districts of the State.

Labour.

A significant contribution to the success of the Second Five-Year Plan of the State came from the workers. The labour situation was particularly cordial and during the last year only seven cases were sent up to the courts. Minimum wages have been fixed for most of the industries in the organized sector and also to some extent in the industries where casual and contract labour are predominant such as stone-breaking, construction, etc. The question of fixing minimum wages for salt industry and agriculture are being examined by the Government. The average total annual earnings of employees in the State had increased from Rs. 689 in 1954 to Rs. 1,016 in 1956, while during the same period, the cost of living index went up by only 17 points reflecting a good increase in the real income of workers in the State.

Education.

As a practical approach to fulfil the educational directive of the Constitution, i.e., Article 45, consistent with available financial resources, the State adopted a compromise formula.

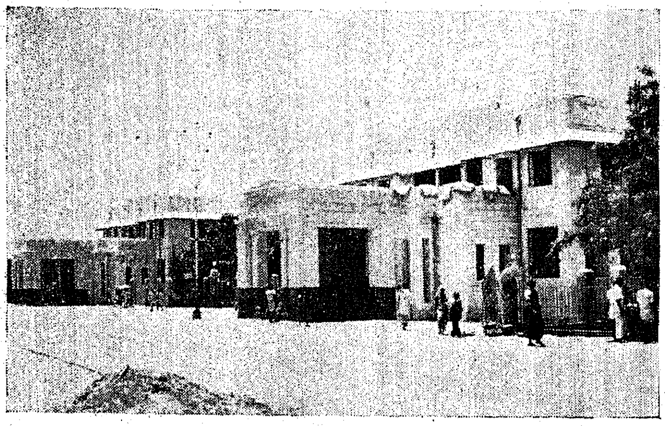


The Mettur Canal.

The objective of compulsory enrolment has been limited to the first five years of schooling to be enforced in a phased programme, so that by 1965-66, the five-year schooling will be free and compulsory in every town and every village in the State. To meet the additional enrolment, the Plan provides for the opening of 1,735 additional classes in elementary schools every year, and it is expected that part of the additional intake will be absorbed by private schools, as the pupil-teacher ratio in these schools has recently been increased to the same level as in public schools. Before compulsory education is enforced in any area, the authorities will see to it that there is a school within a mile. The entire school education has been ordered to be re-organized in the form of a 7-year primary education course followed by a 4-year secondary school course as envisaged by the Secondary Education Commission, i.e., qualifying the pupils for admission to the new 3-year degree course. Poor children in elementary schools are being supplied with free mid-day meals, with Rs. 150 lakhs of Plan funds, supplemented by local contributions. This scheme will enable children to absorb fully the class room instruction and thus eliminate wastage of resources entailed by stagnant pupils. In order to make technical education purposeful, the requirements of new industries and the expanding activities of the Government are constantly kept in view in planning new courses of study in the professional colleges. The decision of the Government of India to open the Southern Higher Technological Institute at Guindy will give a fillip to the progress of technological education in the State. A pension-*cum*-provident fund-insurance scheme has been in force for the benefit of elementary school teachers from 1955 and this scheme has since been extended to cover all teachers in secondary schools as well from 1958. This, together with a 12-rupee increase in the emoluments of teachers given early in 1957 is evidence of the Government's anxiety to better the lot of the teachers.

Health programme.

As part of the health programme under the Second Plan in Madras State, hospital facilities are being increased and these facilities are increasingly being brought within the reach of all the people. Simultaneously, training facilities have been increased to produce larger numbers of medical and auxiliary personnel. These schemes together with prophylactic measures for the control and eradication of communicable diseases account for Rs. 1,388 lakhs of the Plan Budget. The sanction bed-strength in the State's hospitals registered an increase of 259 beds in 1957 and in 1958 it will go up by another 570 beds to bring



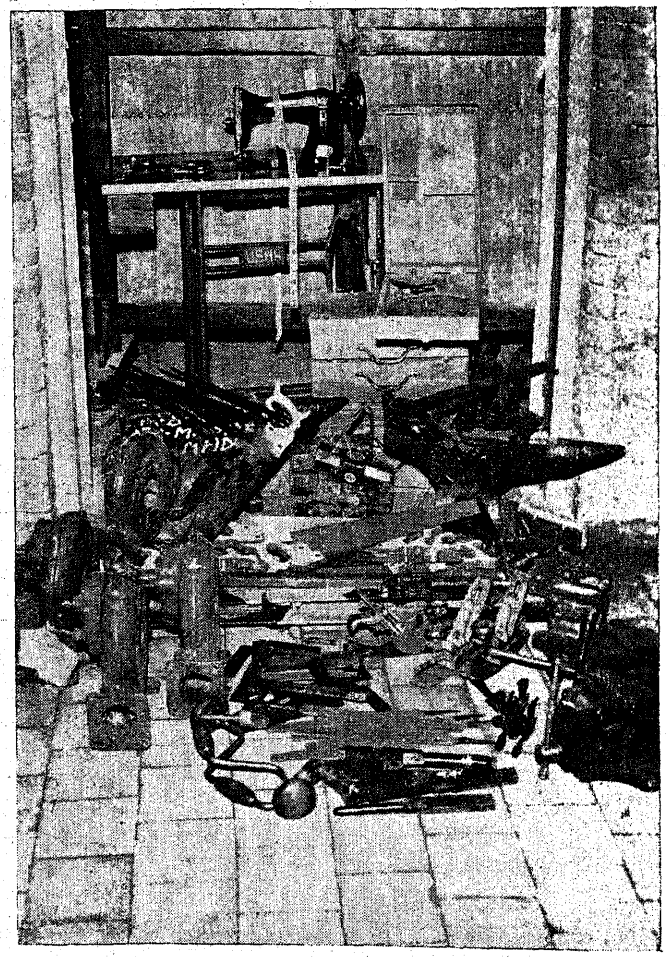
The newly constructed Erskine Hospital at Madurai.

the total to 13,067, chiefly by effecting improvements to taluk and district headquarters hospitals. Nine taluk hospitals were taken over by Government in 1956–57 and four in 1957–58. Tuberculosis and V.D. clinics are to be provided in every district headquarters hospital, each clinic with a 30-bed strength. Already ten T.B. clinics and five V.D. clinics have been established. The Primary Health Centres opened in the development areas of the State carry the curative and preventive work to all the villages in the block. Sixty-two such centres are working now and 27 more will be sanctioned in 1958–59. Construction of staff quarters has been sanctioned for the 62 established centres. During the first two years of the Plan, 192 maternity and child welfare centres were opened in the backward areas and 96 more centres are to be opened in 1958–59.

Welfare of Backward Classes.

Schemes for the welfare of Backward Classes and Harijans in the State under the Second Five-Year Plan were so designed as to enable them to catch up with the rest of the people. The entire expenditure of Rs. 11·33 crores allotted during the five years was proposed to be spent for their educational, professional and industrial advancement. Part of this expenditure was to be incurred on constructing houses for these Backward Classes people. Government subsidy for building these houses ranges from Rs. 550 in the plains to Rs. 700 in the hills, while the beneficiaries are expected to contribute the labour or cost thereof involved in constructing these houses. During the Plan period, about 15,913 houses were proposed to be constructed and during the first two years as many as 6,500 houses were constructed. Apart from this, assignment of house-sites has been going on for sometime and till last year 17,341 house-sides and 2·3 lakhs acres of waste lands were assigned to Harijans and other Scheduled Tribes for construction of houses and for cultivation respectively. Effective steps are also being taken to settle the Harijans in the different walks of life other than agriculture and to this end, not only technical training is afforded, but after training subsidies are given to enable them to set up business in the line of their training. In order to enable them to supplement their meagre agricultural income, cottage industries have been started in all the districts. Two-thirds of the allotted expenditure however goes towards their education, i.e., for giving scholarships, boarding grants and free mid-day meals. The Backward Classes in the State have taken enormous strides during recent years and it is no wonder that the latest trend of thought is towards giving all concessions purely on economic backwardness of the people concerned.

This all-round advancement has been possible only because the constructive plans of the Government had behind them the intelligent and active support of the people. The increasing participation of the people in the implementation of schemes drawn up for their common good, is the surest guarantee for democratic progress.



Tools and machines have also been freely distributed to Harijans.

Printing on sarees is a thriving Cottage Industry in Tiruchirappalli District.

Know Your District :

Tiruchirappalli

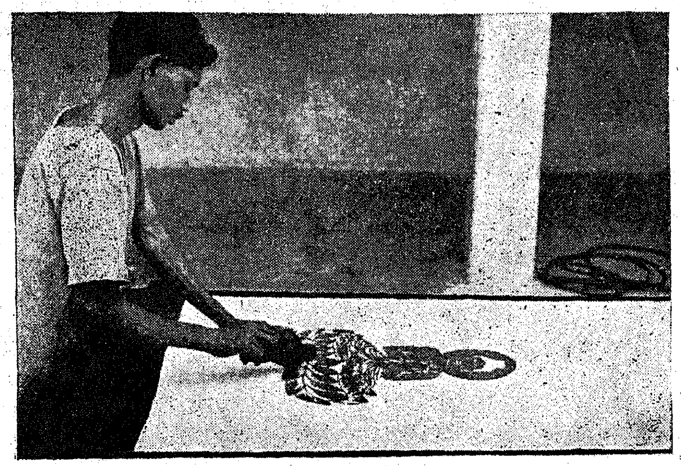
Tiruchirappalli district forms part of the Granary of South India. This is one of the few districts in Tamilnad which present an evergreen and cool appearance year in, year out. The river Cauvery flows through this district and it is no uncommon sight to see from the green fringed river banks vast acres of fertile paddy fields, where the paddy stalks laden with golden corns are bowed down unable to bear the weight. Wherever one turns, one's eyes meet with unrelieved greenness.

Historically, Tiruchi district has been of great importance. It formed part of the Chola Kingdom, with Tiruchirappalli as the seat of the great Cholas. Culturally too, it has been of no little importance. The three arts, music and dancing, drama and literature flourished under the patronage of the kings.

Even along the shores of the Cauvery many temples are found which were built centuries ago. The temple at Srirangam, five miles from Tiruchirappalli traces its origin to the times of the Great Cholas. This is one of the most important temples in India which attract a large number of pilgrims, round the year.

To-day, Tiruchirappalli is one of the foremost educational centres in South India. The St. Joseph's College which is more than a century old and the National College have a prominent place in the history of education in South India. Industries also thrive in this district. An Industrial Colony is to be set up shortly at Tiruchirappalli.

The district of Tiruchirappalli lies between 10° and 11° 30′ of the northern latitude and 77° 45′ and 79° 30′ of the eastern longitude. It is bound on the north by the Salem and the South Arcot districts, on the east by the Tanjore district, on the south by the Madurai and the Ramanathapuram districts and on the west by the Coimbatore district. The area of the district is 5,505 square miles.



Printing on Cotton.

The former State of Pudukkottai was merged in the district in 1948 and it now forms the Pudukkottai division comprising the taluks of Kulathur, Alangudi and Tirumayam. The village of Alathivayal in Tirumayam taluk was transferred to Arantangi taluk of Tanjore district during July 1955. The villages of Usilampatti, Kilayur firka, Sembatti and Suliapatti of Viralimalai firka were transferred to the Manapparai sub-taluk of Kulittalai taluk during July 1955. The zamindari areas were taken over in batches from 1951 onwards and survey and settlement operations are in progress in these areas.

The district is irregular in shape with the westernmost of Karur jutting into the Coimbatore district and the Udayarpalayam taluk in the north-east from a wedge between South Arcot and Tanjore districts. The taluks of Musiri, Kulittalai, Kulathur and Tirumayam are in a row from north to south while the taluks of Perambalur, Lalgudi, Tiruchirappalli and Alangudi form a row on the east.

The Pachamalai hills lie on the north-eastern corner in Musiri taluk. In the south-western corner of the district near Valampatti and in the Marungapuri and Kadavur areas, there are again a few hills, the extreme eastern points of Natham and Ayyalur hills of Madurai district.

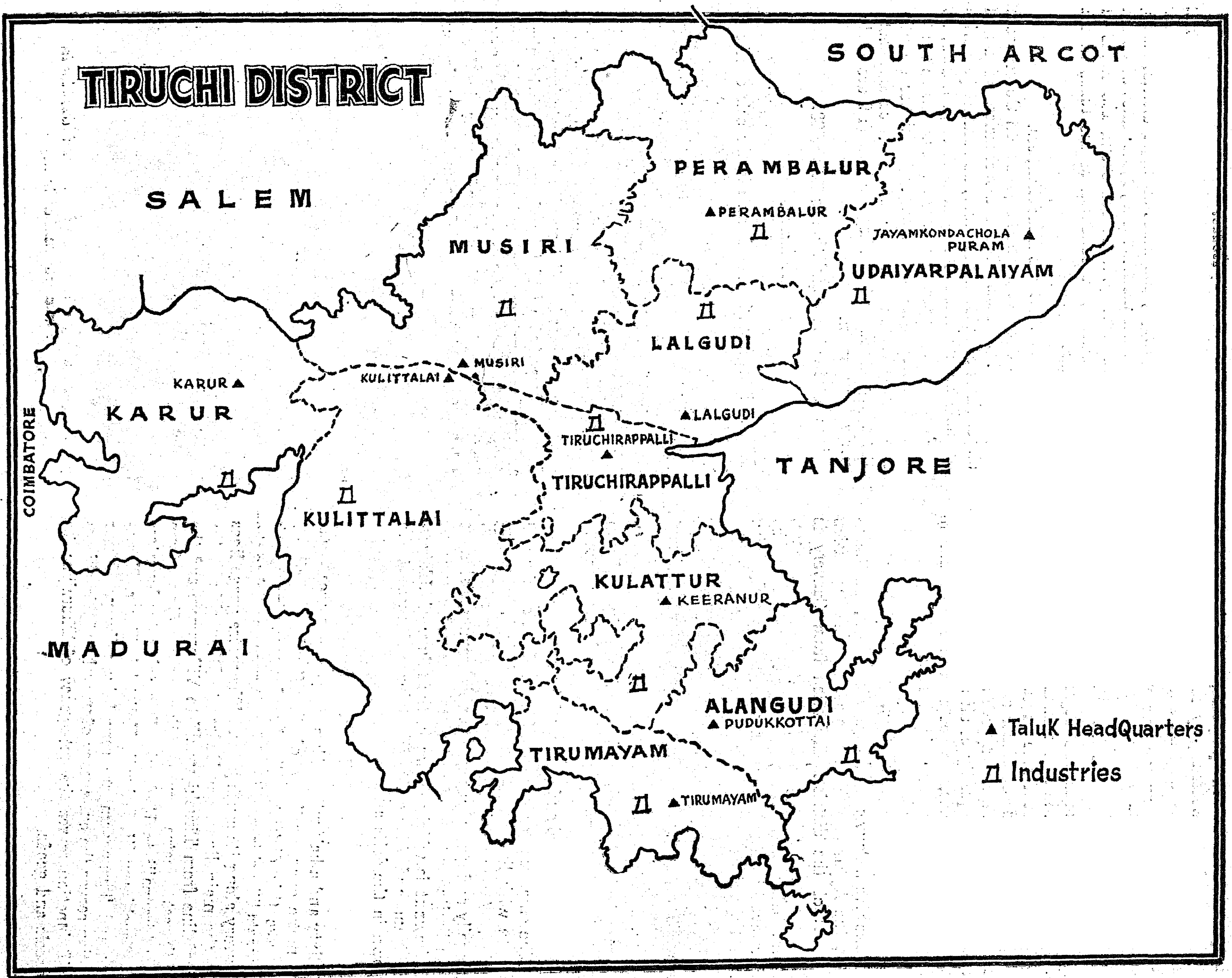
The area of the forests in the district is 360·35 square miles of which 292·93 square miles constitute reserve forests. The reserve forests contain fuel trees of moderate type. The other forests consist of scrub jungle.

The Cauvery which is most important river of the district rises in the Western Ghats in Coorg and enters the district near Kattalai and Kattuputhur and flows practically due east across the middle of the district until it bifurcates at the western end of Srirangam island which is about 9 miles from Tiruchirappalli town and where the Upper Anicut is situated. The northern branch which is called the Coleroon flows eastwards and it forms the southern boundary of Lalgudi and Udayarpalayam taluks as far as the Lower Anicut at the eastern limit of the district. The southern branch called the Cauvery flows through Tiruchirappalli town and on to the Grand Anicut, after which it passes into Tanjore district. The most important tributary of the Cauvery on the north is the Ayyar. It rises in the valley between the Kollimalai and the Pachamalai in Salem district and received numerous tributaries from both the ranges. It forms an important source of irrigation with numerous anicuts across it and it serves a fertile tract of the district including the Turaiyur valley. Its importance as a perennial source of irrigation is chiefly due to the fact that it receives supply of water during both south-west and north-east monsoons. It finally empties itself into the Cauvery just above the Upper Anicut. The other tributaries on the north of the Cauvery are the Karaipattanar, the Uppar, the Nandiyar and the Marudaiyar at Ariyur. The Amaravathi river is the biggest tributary of the Cauvery on the south and the northern slopes of Palani hills and Anamalai hills form the free basin of this river. The Nandiyar rises in Perambalur taluk and flowing south across Lalgudi taluk, joins the Coleroon. The river Vellar which rises in Salem district forms for many miles the boundary between the Perambalur taluk and the South Arcot district. Another river which also goes by the name of Vellar rises in the hills in the south of Kulithalai taluk and passes through the heart of the old Pudukkottai State with Alangudi and Kulathur taluks on its left and Tirumayam taluk on its right into Tanjore district. The Noyyal, a tributary of the Cauvery flows along the north-western boundary of Karur taluk.

There are also other small rivers, such as the Rudraksha (a feeder of Ayyar) and the Kombayar in Musiri taluk, the Cinnar (a feeder of the Vellar) and the Kallar in Perambalur taluk, the Kallar and the Marudayar in Udayarpalayam taluk, the Ariyar, the Kodingal and the Koraiyar in Tiruchirappalli taluk, the Kundar, the Variyar, Agniyar and the Ambuliyar in Alangudi taluk and the Pambar in Tirumayam taluk.

Climate and rainfall.

The climate of the district is hot and dry. April to June are the hottest months. The heat is less during the south-west monsoon (i.e.), from June to September. With the north-east monsoon commencing in October or November the cold weather begins and it lasts up to the end of February after which the temperature begins to rose. Most of the rainfall is had during the north-east monsoon and some rainfall during the south-west monsoon. The average rainfall of the district is 32·69 inches. The total rainfall is more than 30 inches in all taluks except Karur. Both the monsoons are of great importance to the district. The south-west monsoon brings freshes into Cauvery. Though early rains in March, April and May are not


TIRUCHI DISTRICT
SOUTH ARCOT
SALEM
MUSIRI
PERAMBALUR
PERAMBALUR
JAYAMKONDACHOLA PURAM
UDAIYARPALAIYAM
LALGUDI
LALGUDI
MUSIRI
KULITTALAI
KARUR
KARUR
COIMBATORE
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI
TANJORE
KULITTALAI
KULATTUR
KEERANUR
MADURAI
ALANGUDI
PUDUKKOTTAI
TIRUMAYAM
TIRUMAYAM
Taluk HeadQuarters
Industries

helpful for cultivation purposes, they improve the pasture and the water-supply for drinking purposes. Failure of the south-west monsoon tells upon the dry cultivation in the district and affects the economic condition of the ryots.

Soils.

The prevailing soils are regar, red and alluvial. Regar soil is found in all the taluks. Black loamy soil which is the most fertile is found in the eastern portion. The lands on either side of the Cauvery in Musiri, Lalgudi, Tiruchirappalli and Kulittalai taluks are alluvial. The quality of all soils except the alluvial is generally poor, the poorest soil being found in Kulittalai and the best soil in Karur.

Irrigation.

The rivers Cauvery, Amaravathi, Noyyal, the Nandiyar, the Ayyar and the Vellar are the chief irrigation sources of the district. Irrigation from Cauvery is carried on in all taluks except Kulathur, Tirumayam, Perambalur and Udaiyarpalaiyam. Irrigation by Amaravathi is confined to Karur and Kulittalai taluks. The Noyyal irrigates portions of the Karur taluk, the Ayyar, portions of the Musiri taluk and the Vellar, portions of the Perambalur taluk. Besides these there are 180 major tanks and 5,847 minor tanks. About 146,000 acres are under channel irrigation and about 1 lakh acres under tanks. Irrigation under the tank sources has often to be supplemented by wells in December and January when the supply runs short.

Food and commercial crops.

The chief food crops are paddy, cholam, cumbu and varagu with limited extents of samai, ragi, korra and maize. Among pulses, redgram is widely cultivated. Gingelly and groundnut are the chief commercial crops with limited extents of cotton, tobacco and sugarcane. Cashewnut is widely grown in the taluks of Udaiyarpalaiyam and Alangudi. Plantains and coconut are grown in the delta area.

Railways.

Sixty and a half miles of broad guage and 162½ miles of metre guage railway of the Southern Railway traverse this district. The broad guage line which connects Tiruchirappalli and Erode runs parallel to the Cauvery along its south bank. The metre guage lines are the main line from Madras to Dhanushkodi, the chord line from Tiruchirappalli to Villupuram and the south-east metre guage line proceeding from Tiruchirappalli to Madurai. The taluk headquarters of Tiruchirappalli, Lalgudi, Kulittalai, Karur, Keeranur and Tirumayam are served by railway. Karur station serves the out-agency of vangal and Tiruchirappalli junction serves the out-agency of Thuraiyur for parcels and goods.

Roads.

There are 2,897 miles of roads within the district comprising 131 miles of National Highways, 190 miles of State Highways, 696 miles of major district roads, 559 miles of other district roads, 1,039 miles of village roads, 89 miles of P.W.D. roads and 193 miles of municipal roads. The condition of the roads in the district is fair.

Medical and Education, etc.

There are 8 Government hospitals, 12 Government dispensaries, 15 Local Fund dispensaries, 14 Rural dispensaries of modern medicine, 18 rural dispensaries of indigenous medicine, 7 municipal dispensaries, 13 maternity centres and 2 leprosy clinics. There are 75 high schools, 16 middle schools, 167 higher elementary schools, 1,924 elementary schools, 47 basic schools, 139 adult schools and 6 colleges of which 2 are exclusively for women.

The total cattle population is 1,249,023.

Industry.

Weaving is the chief industry of this district. In Kulittalai taluk. Kulittalai town is the sole centre of production of handwoven cloth. Cloths of superior quality are produced at Manamedu. Thuraiyur, Thathiengarpet, Tiruchirappalli and Woraiyur for export. Fine varieties of sarees and dhoties are produced in Kulittalai, Karur and Tiruchirappalli. Silk weaving is carried on by the members of the Sourashtra community in Tiruchirappalli. In Karur, there are several knitting factories where towels, bed-sheets, etc., are produced. Cotton ginning factories are at Karur, Perambalur and Thuraiyur. Rough blankets and woollen carpets are produced at Rajankudi, Kurumbalur in Perambalur taluk and Kolakkudi in Musiri Pugalur, Nanniyur, Vangal and Nerur in Karur taluk. The chief centres of *kora* mat production are

Bangle-making is one of the important industries in Tiruchirappalli district.

taluk, Unniyur and Varadarajapuram in Musiri taluk, Mayanur and Kattalai in Kulittalai taluk, Pettavoithalai, Palakkarai and Woraiyur in Tiruchirappalli taluk and Vaithalai, Sirudhaiyur and Thalakkudi in Lalgudi taluk. Bamboo basket and thatties are produced in Tiruvanaikaval in Tiruchirappalli taluk. There are a few match factories at Illuppur in Tiruchirappalli taluk, Thottiyam in Musiri taluk and in Pudukkottai. Brass vessels are made in Sirugambur and Lalgudi. In Tiruchirappalli town and Woraiyur cherroot is the most flourishing industry. There is export of cherroots to Burma, Singapore, etc. Palakkarai in Tiruchirappalli town and Pallapatti are noted for boot and shoe-making. The other important cottage and small-scale industries are woollen spinning and weaving, rope-making, cotton-dyeing and bleaching, oil pressing, gur manufacture, beedi making, tanneries, cobblery and footwear-making brass, copper and bell-metal works, soap manufacture, pottery basket-making and furniture-making.

Population.

The population of the district in 1951 was 2,943,882. Excluding the extent of 360·35 square miles covered by forest, the density of population is 572 per square mile. The increase in population during 1941–51 was 13·51 as against 12·1 per cent during 1931–41. The large increase of 30·3 per cent in Tiruchirappalli taluk was mainly due to the growth of Tiruchirappalli town.

Vital statistics.

According to the 1951 census, the average birth-rate was 29·6 per mille which is less than that for the State (31·7). The average death-rate was 21·7 as against 21·2 for the State. The average maternal mortality rate of 12·6 per 1,000 births was high when compared to the rate of 8·1 for the State.

Economic and Social condition.

The towns of Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Karur and Srirangam are municipalities. Tiruchirappalli City which is situated on the banks of the Cauvery is a big railway junction and is reputed as one of the important educational centres in South India. It was at one time the capital of the Chola kings. There is a huge rock (273 feet high) in the heart of the city with a Siva temple at the foot and a Ganesa temple on the top from where one can have a panoramic view of the city and its surroundings. The workshops of the metre gauge section of the Southern Railway are at Golden Rock, two miles from Tiruchirappalli. The municipal town of Srirangam, three miles from Tiruchirappalli on the island of Srirangam is famous for the most important among the shrines held sacred by the Vaishnavite Hindus. The temple there, dedicated to Lord Sri Ranganatha, is one of the prehistoric antiquity and of great architectural interest. The Vaikunta Ekadasi festival occurring in December-January of each year attracts a very large concourse of pilgirims. Thiruvanaikaval or Jambukeshawaram as it is otherwise, known, also situated on the island of Srirangam has a famous Siva temple. It enshrines the Appulingam (water) one of the five famous Lingams representing the five elements, ether, air, fire, water and earth. There is a perennial flow of water from a spring beneath the Lingam. Apart from the four municipalities, there are 77 towns and villages with a population of over 5,000. A large percentage of the population in these cities and towns comprises industrial, labour, trading and other classes. In the rural parts, the occupation is mainly agriculture. Handloom weaving is another main occupation on which a few thousands depend for their livelihood. Except in the deltaic areas, agriculture does not provide employment for a considerable portion of the year and the per capita income of the rural ryot is very low. There are still a very large number of villages which lack elementary needs such as adequate drinking water-supply, quick means of communication and transport, medical and educational facilities, not to speak of more modern amenities such as electricity and radio. The purchasing power of the rural population has to be increased by providing subsidiary occupations as there is very little by way of subsidiary occupations for the agricultural population and unemployment is increasing in urban areas.

State Transport—May 1958

Madras Branch.—The fleet strength at the end of May 1958 was 453.

From 15th May 1958 a new route No. 38 has been introduced from Mint to Perambur via Moolakadai and Viasarpadi.

Special buses were operated to Little Mount, Ponneri, Tirupporur and Kartheepuram in connexion with various festivals.

An average number of 336 buses were put on the roads every day and they brought in Rs. 14,85,405 after covering 1,183,646 miles and carrying 11,541,140 passengers in the month.

Courtesy week was observed from 19th to 25th May 1958.

Kanyakumari Branch.—Fifty-five buses of the fleet strength of 75 were operated and they carried 857,132 passengers and covered 244,444·5 miles. Rupees 2,50,542·04 nP. were collected.

Specials covered 236·8 miles and brought in Rs. 285·19 nP. collected from 1,007 passengers.

FANCY SHELLS INDUSTRY IN SOUTH INDIA

SRI V. D. SPURGEON, Deputy Director of Fisheries, Madras.

The commonest articles of interest on a sea beach are shells. These shells are mostly the outward skeletons of soft-bodied group of animals called in science as *Mollusca* and popularly known among the lay people as *shell-fish*. The two names : *Mollusca and shell-fish* appear at first sight as contradictory, as the scientific name signifies that these creatures have soft bodies, whereas the popular English name implies that they have hard shells. Both are correct, as the soft-bodies mollusca are encased mostly within hard, calcareous shells.

Fancy value of shells.

Of all the used of shells from the sea, even a casual observer of a few shells washed on the beach will arrive at the irresistible conclusion that the fancy value of shells is greater than anything else. In their hundreds of forms, and sizes and with beautiful strips and dots in all imaginable hues these objects from sea are valued even by those who do not find æsthetic appreciation in anything else in life! Children pick every one of them to play with, the naturalist collects all of them as objects of interest to him, business-minded folk engage coolies and remove basket fulls to be sold as curios. So shells have an universal appeal.

Fancy Shell Trade in South India.

In Madras seas there are about 700 kinds of shells of which 470 are univalves or single-shelled shell fishes, and 230 bivalves or double-shelled shell fishes. In Rameswaram Island (a distance of 435 miles from Madras) marine shells are abundant as the coral reefs off Pamban, Krusadai and Mandapam abound with all sorts of marine fauna including shell fishes. In this locality the number of living mollusca within reach of the seeker along the shore is limited. A number of small species can be cleaned from the sand and mud with the aid of a sieve. In this manner we can secure at Ennur specimens of the lively little razor-shell and at Adyar *Nassarius* and *Tellina* and *Placuna placenta*.

In Madras Presidency Nature has blessed us with a large number of marine shells. Though their worth is not fully recognized there is yet an indication of their worth being realised at Rameswaram in South India.

Rameswaram is an ancient and glorious place of historic and religious significance. Year in and year out thousands of ardent worshippers flock the temple premises and never fail to get impressed by shell-booths closely packed inside the temple and outside in the approaches to the temple.

Peculiarly enough, only at Rameswaram in the South, that anything of public interest in shells, is seen. There are 23 big fancy shell shop there (17 inside the temple and 6 outside the entrance to the temple).

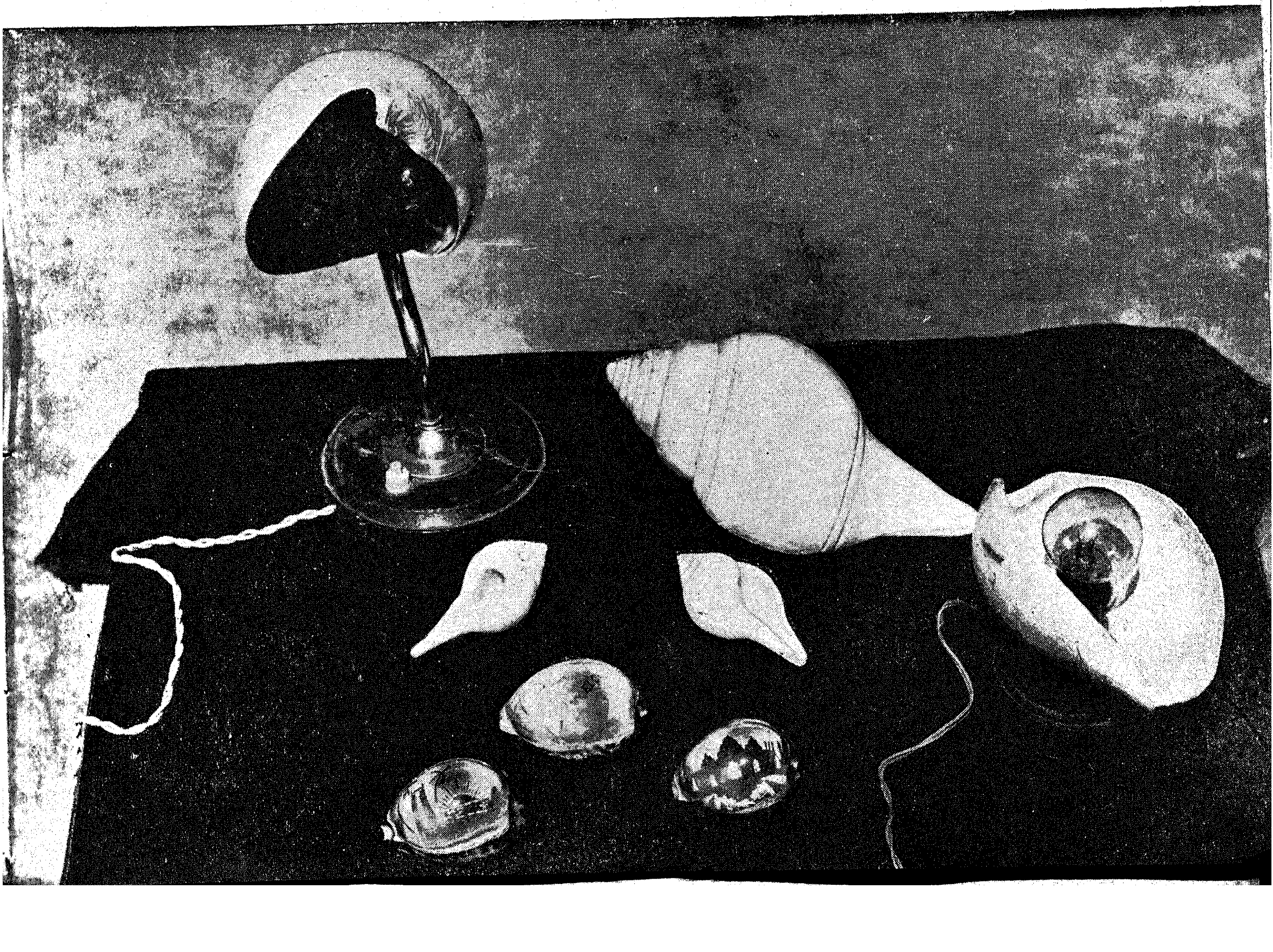
Business in marine fancy shells dates back to 1900. Since that time the pilgrims and others have been interested in shells. There is a happy sign of the shells becoming increasingly popular among South and North Indians. On account of increasing demand the number of stalls has been increasing. The sales range from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 every year and the net profit to each seller after deducting the cost in procuring and cleaning shells and the rental of Rs. 5 per mensem paid to the Devasthanam, appears to be Rs. 600-800 annually. This will work out to Rs. 50 to Rs. 67 per mensem not a bad business! During times of festivals there will be record sales.

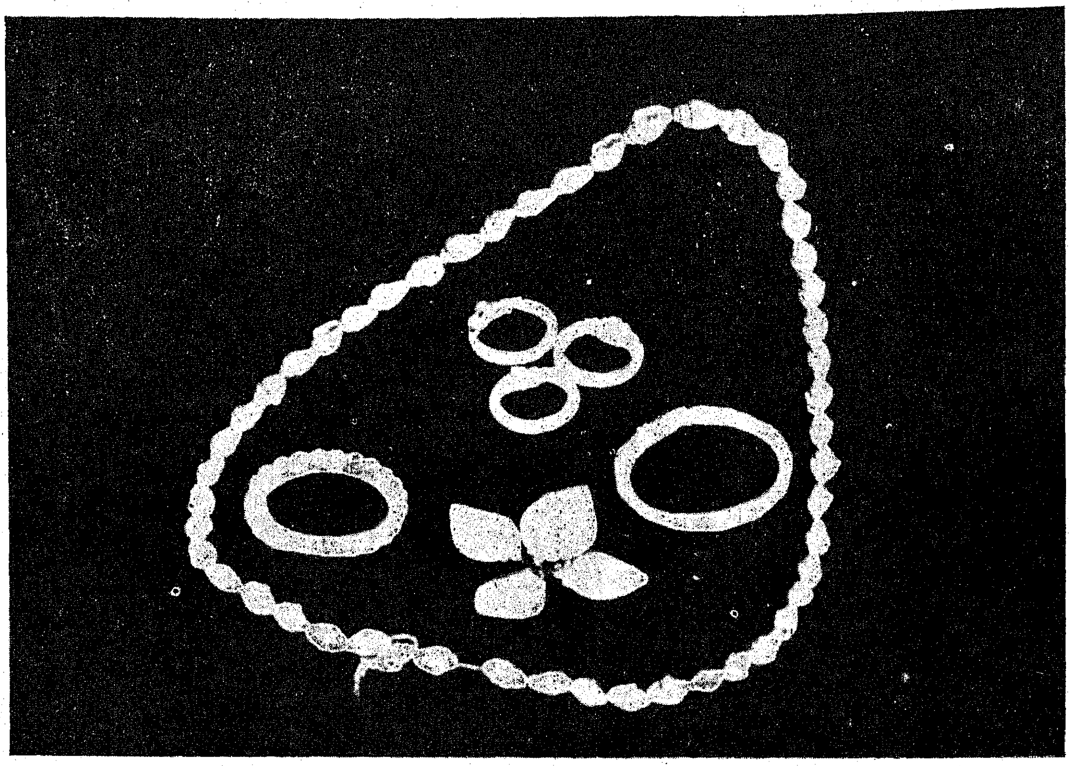
It is a delightful sight to see the row of shell-stalls on either side of the main entrance to the holy shrine. The stall-keepers are not a sleepy lot as we meet with among cloth merchants or sweetmeat vendors! They almost sit at an angle leaning more to the front, to shoot up at the sight of a party of pilgrims or casual visitors and to invite them to the stalls for a few purchases. New comers will be put in a dilemma when from a dozen shops—all beautifully decorated and the shells with several tints effectively displayed —the merchants shout and invite " *Ayya, Amma, enga vanga* " (" Sir and Madam, come to my stall ").

In each stall there will be hundred kinds of shells and shell products beautifully arranged for sale. All imaginable South Indian and Ceylon shells will be available. Pretty shell necklaces, chank-festoons, rings, pendants, ear drops, buttons, buckles, feeding spouts, trumpets, paper weights, etc., attract the eyes of visitors. Visitors never fail to sit at these stalls discuss at length the ' Biology ' and ' Ecology ' of each shell and purchase the choicest among the lot by paying off at the first price declared by stall-keepers without a bargain.

When the objects are so attractive and when the people have appreciative inclination to possess them in their homes or wear ornaments exquisitely made of them, it is up to us to enlarge and develop this indigenous marine industry. While it may find a market for the shells which otherwise go to waste, a cottage industry can be started in poor hamlets on the sea board districts of the presidency to the advantage of countless fishermen families.

Much remains to be done. It is no good if the shells are just cleaned and sold. Cleaning and selling may not offer job for many and the sales cannot be ever expanding. Dainty articles of commerce should be manufactured out of shells. No doubt we have chank or conch shell products now. This is not enough. Out of shells are manufactured in America, *lamp shades, buttons, handles for knives, buckles, ash trays, ornaments, paper weights, window decorations, festoons, rosaries, toy-canoes*, toy-birds, toy animals, and *ink-stands.* Very fine inlaid work is done with this material *in furniture*, some used in *opera glass cases*, Japanese mother of pearl used for marquetry work. Again some are used for *umbrella handles.* Often





For Milady— bangles, chain, ear-rings and rings.

shells are used for the decoration of *fountain pens, clocks, ink-wells, picture frames, combs, barpins, beads, studs, cuff-links, hatpins,* and other valuable things, sometimes, used to impart an iridescent sheen to the surface, usually of metals. In Naples it is much in use for iron bedseads. In Japan carefully executed work is done on lacquer, and the interior surface is lined with layers of pearl or coating of pearl powder, forming designs of flower, fruits and other ornaments.

When shells are put to " thousand and one " ways abroad, it is surprising in India we use them only here and there simply as articles for show or as curious. I shall suggest a few uses to which shells can be put to in South India :—

(i) *In Buttons Industry.*—As a cottage industry in the villages, in and around the sources of mother-of-pearl, green mussel, trochus and Turba shells, the old women and children who usually do not go out for hard manual labour can be taught to punch these shells by means of iron punch-players made for the purpose. The cut pieces can be polished and four or two holes drilled, with drills, to make them perfect buttons.

(ii) *Shells as Curios.*—Besides, button industry, shells easily procurable on the sea-shore or on the margins of estuarine lakes, can be cleaned and sold as curious or souvenirs to be placed in our homes to add attraction. Many children gather shells. Old men and women in fishing hamlets could easily collect them, if a market is created for them and make their livelihood. The art of cleaning the marine shells to make them very attractive and to remove the animal odour can easily be taught to a few with advantage, for the collectors and purchasers. Shells brought from sea should be washed well in soap water after the animals inside the shells are completely pulled out with a curved iron hook. Otherwise, the remnant flesh inside shells will rot and emit bad odour. Larger shells can be washed in a solution of warm or boiling potash. If you wish to put a high polish on your shells, take a porcelain kettle of fair size, and place it in a solution of 1/3 mauriatic acid and 2/3 water. Boil the solution. With forceps immerse shells for a moment in boiling solution and then in the water. This polish will last for ever. This works better with very hard shells. Practice in art of cleaning makes perfect work. Plain shells with their natural colouration, stripes, dots and blotches form excellent objects to adorn the table in parlour. Dull shells can be made lustrous by dipping in dilute solution of gum. Besides this, cleaning certain black dotted cowries in Rameswaram stall are made to give double colour effect—natural outside colour—all over and a violent tint in the centre. Visitors to shell booths carry several of these lovely things mistaking often the dual colouration as Natural. The Ceylon cowries is yet another shell to serve as fancy paper weight. The beggars bowl is fascinating. The Nautilus shell is simply marvellous. Only those who have seen it can appreciate Nature's lovely home (shell) for the animal Nautilus.

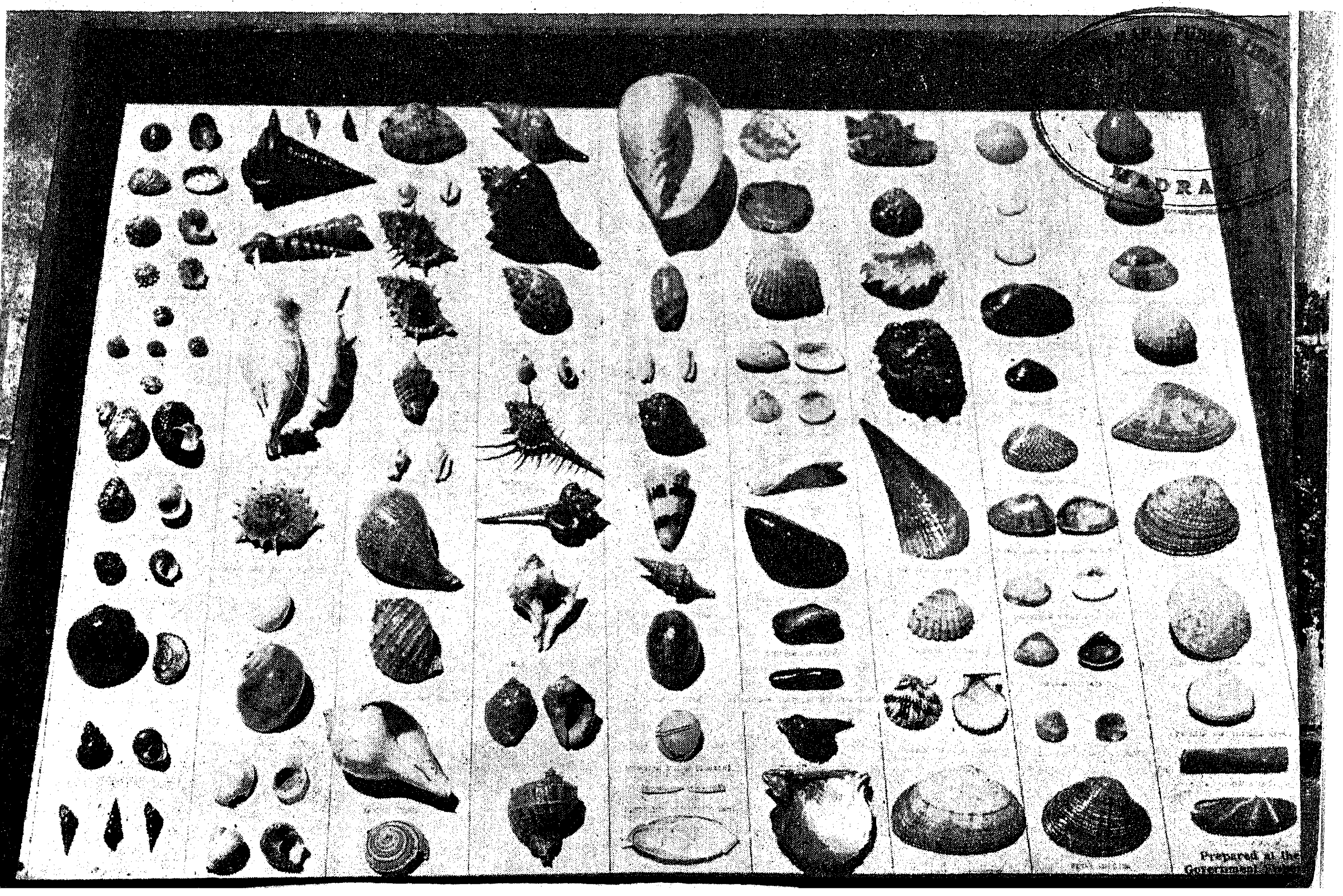
(iii) *Shell ornaments for personal wear.*—Conch shells are cut into bangles, rings, pendants and ear-drops. This practice is seen only in Dacca district in

Bengal. The fashion can be revived in South India where women have mania for gold ornaments—a great national waste, as much gold is lost in wear and tear of ornaments. Small univalve shells of little more than pea size are excellent objects for necklaces, armlets and for mounting in long gold chains. Besides the pretty appearance, great auspicious qualities are attributed to them when worn as jewels. These shells can be nicely strung on silk threads by drilling holes through the entire length of each shell. Drilling to be cautiously done by a bodkin and by keeping the brittle shells on cork-mat or folded towel.

(iv) *Shells for variety of articles.*—Besides buttons, shells can be used for knives handles, comb pins, pincushions, umbrella handles, etc. In cottages, the lazy folk can usefully engage themselves in cutting the into the above. Besides finding employment for many in maritime villages, the country can get the benefit of cheap indigenous goods out of shells instead of importing them at a heavy cost.

Further, out of shells many toys and fancy articles can be made. With dentalium shells or tusker-shells found in myraids near Manapad in Tirunelvely district and ' useless ' fish scales beautiful festoons, flowers and garlands are made. Fisher-children in schools in certain villages as Veerapandiapatnam near Trichendur, Kuttapuli and Mukkur, make dainty articles. Birds and animals out of some other shells are made. Silk-scarf riddled neatly with tusker-shells from excellent tea-cosy. I have seen many being manufactured at Kuttapuli Convent school. Why not villagers along the Coromandel Coast, especially women, do these and make a decent and profitable living? It is said that in Florida State in America hundreds of toys are manufactured by shells alone.

A variety of shells.



THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE: GUINDY

Six months have elapsed since the inauguration of the Industrial Estate at Guindy by the Prime Minister of India on the 7th January 1958. In these six months much has been done in this Estate. Private as well as Government factory units have moved in and started work in full swing. Out of the 90 factory units provided in the scheme, 52 units have been completed, 44 of these have been allotted to private industrialists and 43 have been occupied so far.

Industries manufacturing articles such as air break switches, switch-gears, electrical equipments and accessories, railway and automobile parts, mathematical instruments, spectable frames, radio parts, hand tools, galvanized and die cast parts, brass castings, tin containers, industrial leather belting and washers, etc., are now housed in the Estate. The construction of additional factory units is expected to be completed at Guindy before the end of this year.

On the Government side, ten productive units and a Technical Information Centre have started functioning.

For the Hand Tools Unit, machinery worth Rupees 3·96 lakhs has been received. The tool room section started functioning from September 1957 and articles worth Rs. 10,000 have been produced to meet the departmental requirements besides the servicing work including designing and making special dies, etc., required for private Industries.

Training is being given to workers in the manufacture of simple parts of surgical instruments in the surgical instruments unit. Rupees 60,000 worth of machinery has been installed in the Laboratory and Scientific Equipment unit. Wood-working unit and the sports goods unit have started functioning and the former has manufactured Rs. 15,776 worth of articles against orders while the latter has manufactured articles worth Rs. 5,515 of which Rs. 4,108 worth of articles have been sold out. Training in manufacture of scientific glass apparatus is being imparted to ten students.

Construction work is in progress or has been completed for the Electrical Goods Unit, Pressure Die Casting Unit, Model Foundry, Model Scientific Glass Apparatus Factory and Servicing Corporation.

With a view to demonstrating the use of narrow strips of wood now going to waste, by use of quick setting resin glues, supplying bentwood to small units for use in light furniture and providing servicing facilities to small units in manufacturing door, windows and furniture, a scheme for the establishment of a Mill and servicing Plant at a total cost of Rs. 4·80 lakhs has been formulated. A common lease shop for hiring out highly specialized machines to the needy small industrialists in the Estate for short periods in order to encourage them in certain specialized lines has been established. For this purpose, the Technical Co-operation Mission have made a generous offer of 36 modern and costly machines as gift. It is also proposed to encourage the manufacture of 6,000 cycles per year for which a Departmental servicing centre is proposed to be set up at a total cost of Rupees 2·20 lakhs.

The Technical Information section is being set up at a total cost of Rs. 3 lakhs. Photographic and cine equipments and a large number of books are stocked here, and are accessible to any one who is after information.

The photographs in the next four pages show some of the units functioning in the Estate.

Legend.

Facing page (page 17)—

1. General view of the Industrial Estate.
2. Metal container Corporation—Seaming and Bending.
3. Transformer winding section.
4. General and Industrial Leather belting machine.
5. Electrical accessories.
6. Scientific Glass Training centre.

Centre spread (pages 18 and 19)—

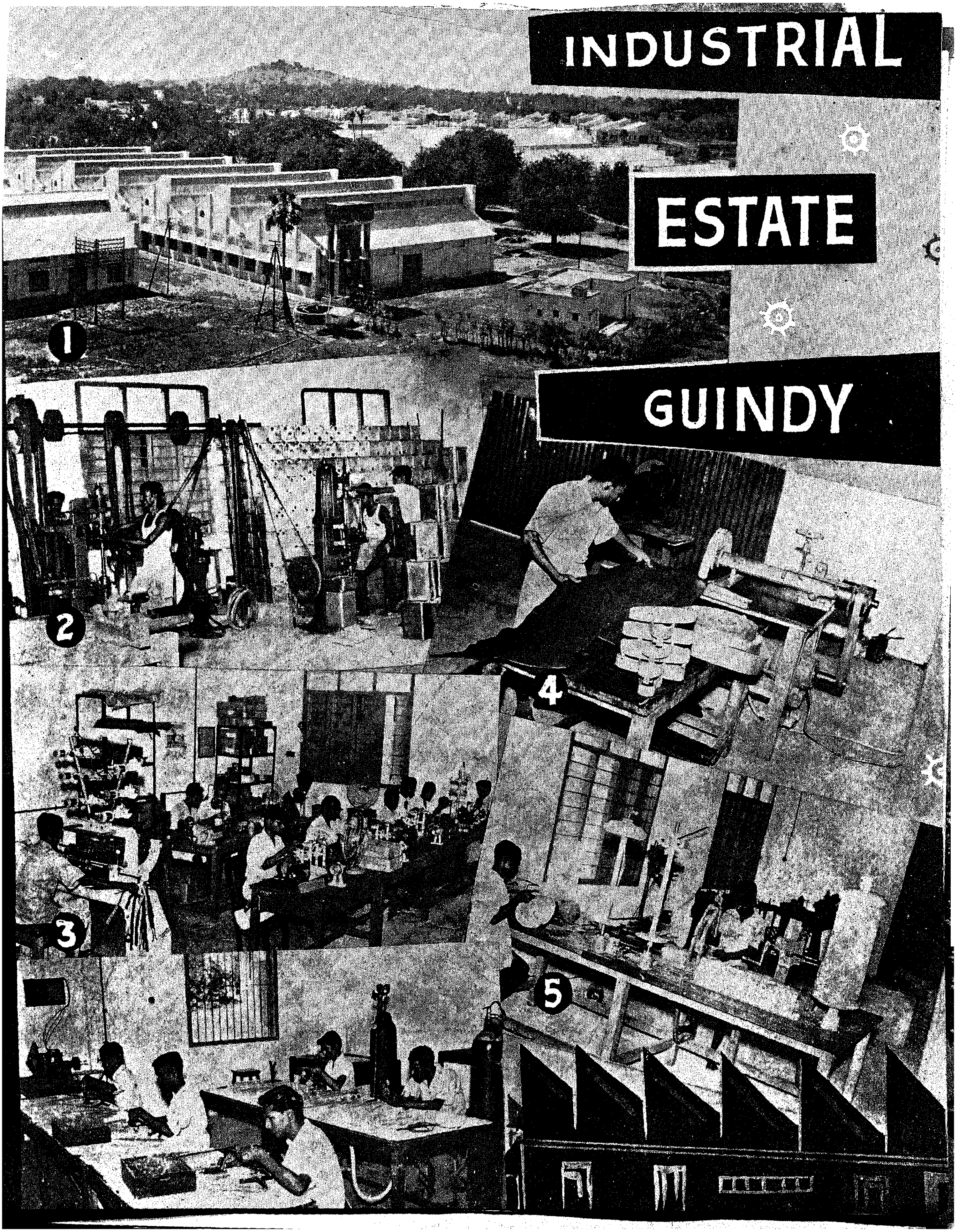
1. General view of Saranjan Karyalaya.
2. Lathe-Amcess Engineers.
3. Finished goods of the wood-working and sports goods unit.

4 and 10. Views of the Technical Information Centre.

5. General view of Ace Engineering Industries.
6. Hand tool unit.
7. Plastic moulding.
8. Wood-working unit.
9. Pressed metal products.
11. General view of Precision works.

Page 20—

1. Tapco Tools.
2. Cycle frames being assembled at the Varur Corporation.
3. General view of Electronic Industries.
4. General view of Pakoda Metal works.
5. Servicing Corporation.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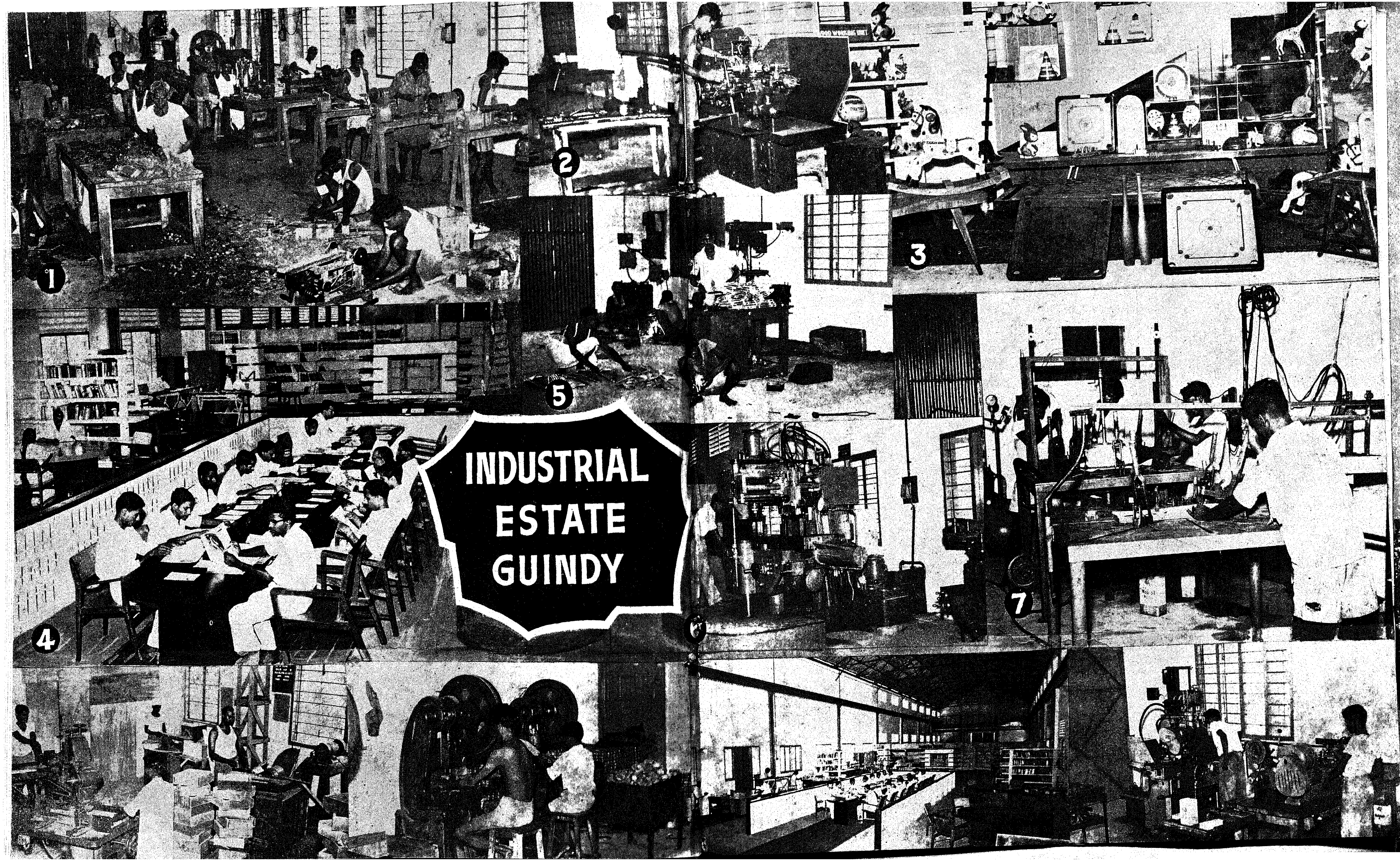
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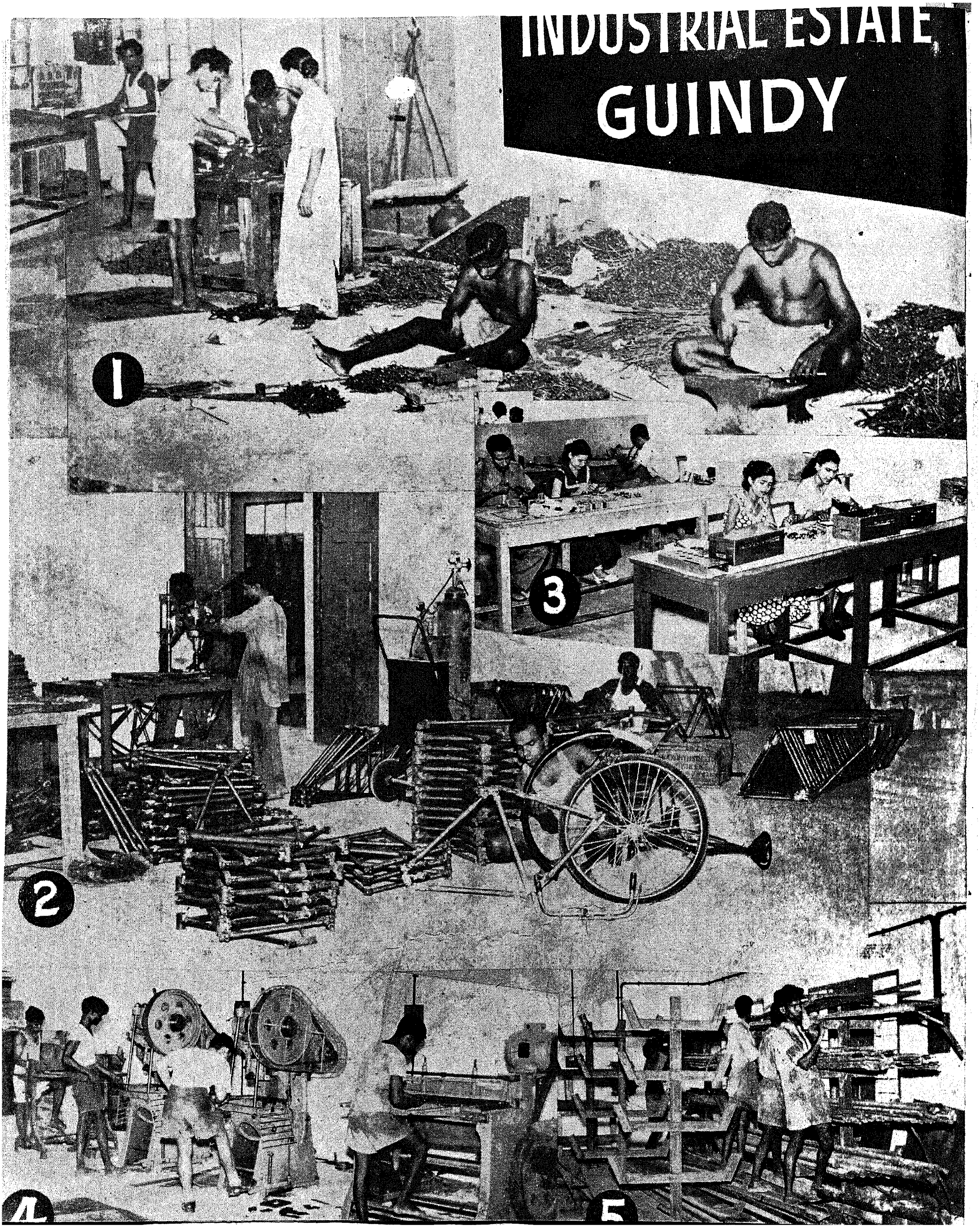
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Vocational Guidance and Adult Counselling

SRI M. A. KRISHNAMOORTHI, District Employment Officer-in-charge of Youth Employment Service and Employment Counselling.

"Vocational Guidance" is defined as the assistance given to young persons who have had no significant work experience in the choice of an occupation suited to the aptitudes, qualifications, preferences and personality of the individual concerned and to the prospective needs of the economy in such a manner, as to promote full opportunity for personal development and satisfaction from work and the most effective use of the national man-power resources.

A similar assistance given to adults who have had work experience is termed "Adult Counselling". This in essence is a guidance towards job-adjustment. The term "Guidance" is qualified by various attributes, such as vocational, educational, social, health, etc. It would therefore be appropriate to consider guidance as an integrated concept and a unitary service which aims at helping the individual, whether his problem is one of choosing a career or selecting a training course or overcoming a social or a personal problem. The different types of guidance services are understood only in the sense of their focus on a particular type of problem.

The choice of an occupation, where there is free scope of choice, depends to a large extent on the individual's ideas and views about ideas, and the kind of person he wishes to be. These ideas and views of oneself are known as "Self-concept" in so far as they pertain to his occupational choices, and have to be worked out in terms of the realities he faces, i.e., the occupational opportunities open to him, facilities for undertaking a particular course of training, availability of jobs in his preferred occupations, etc.

For several years the need has been felt for a programme of Vocational Guidance for Juveniles and Employment Counselling for Adults to be introduced as an integral part of the functions of the Employment Exchange. The Shiva Rao Committee emphasized this need and as a result, a programme for extending the activities of the Employment Service in this direction was drawn up for implementation during the Second Five-Year Plan. Vocational Guidance and Counselling cover the following processes :—

(1) Collection of information from the client.

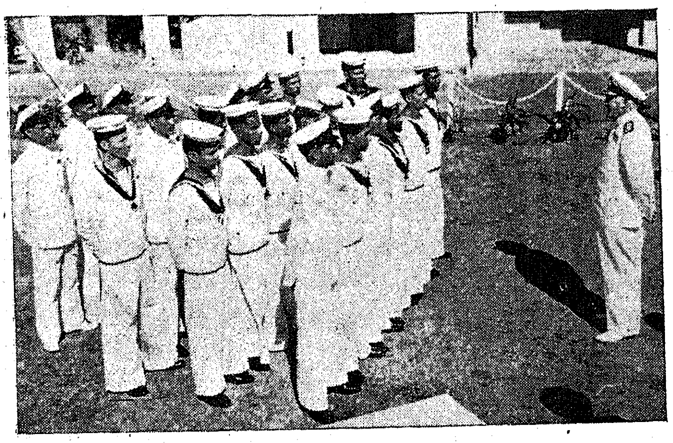
(2) Provision of information to the client to clarify his thinking.

(3) Assistance in developing a career plan.

(4) Help in putting the plan into action.

A society in which labour is plentiful in relation to capital has to develop the art of adopting labour-intensive methods of production. Indeed, in the context of prevailing unemployment, the absorption of labour becomes an important objective in itself. Considering the social costs of unemployment, there is justification for special measures to increase employment of a labour intensive and capital saving kind.

Diversification of the industrial pattern, a suitable policy for location of industries, special measures to assist small-scale and cottage industries, maintenance of economic activity continuously at high levels, provision of adequate training facilities and measures to promote geographical and occupational mobility of labour—all these must be considered as basic elements in the programme of creating adequate employment opportunities.

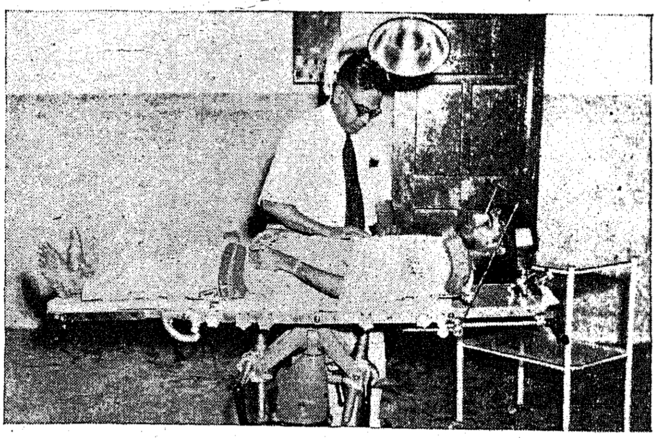


Unemployment among the educated is a part of the general problem of unemployment in the country. In regard to the educated unemployed, it is necessary to be specific about the kind of education for which job opportunities are required to be created and not merely to indicate the total number of jobs needed. To formulate programmes specially designed to alleviate unemployment among the educated, the Planning Commission set up a study group in September 1955. Defining persons with and above matriculation standard as educated, the study group placed the existing number of educated unemployed at 5·5 lakhs and estimated that in the next five years 14·5 lakhs of educated persons would be added to the Labour force. Thus to eradicate unemployment in the next five years two million jobs are required. As against this task, it is estimated that the projects included in the Second Plan in public sector are likely to provide about a million jobs. Another 2·4 lakhs will fill up vacancies due to retirements, etc. In addition the private sector will absorb about 2 lakhs of persons. Against this background, the study group suggested certain fields as being specially capable of providing employment opportunities for the educated. These include (1) the area of small-scale industries and distinguished village industries, (2) development of co-operative goods transport through inter-city and intra-city operational units, and (3) organization of work and orientation groups. Effective utilisation of material and human resources is of vital significance in planning. To achieve the requisite tempo of development, the task of matching human resources with material resources has to be taken up with as much precision as possible.

In dealing with the problem of educated unemployed, *ad hoc* measures designed to alleviate unemployment in the short run can hardly produce lasting results and would therefore be futile. It is especially necessary that the expansion of education and training facilities should be closely linked to the future requirements of the economy, and the growth of educational facilities in directions which may further accentuate the problem should be avoided. There should be systematic examination of openings for educated and trained persons in different categories and information should be widely disseminated through programmes of educational and vocational counselling university employment bureaus, etc.

With the above objects in view, a Vocational Guidance and Adult Counselling Unit has been opened at the Employment Exchange, Madras, by the Government of Madras on 22nd February 1958. The intention is to extend the facilities for Vocational Guidance in the other District Employment Offices also in due course for the benefit of persons in the other districts.

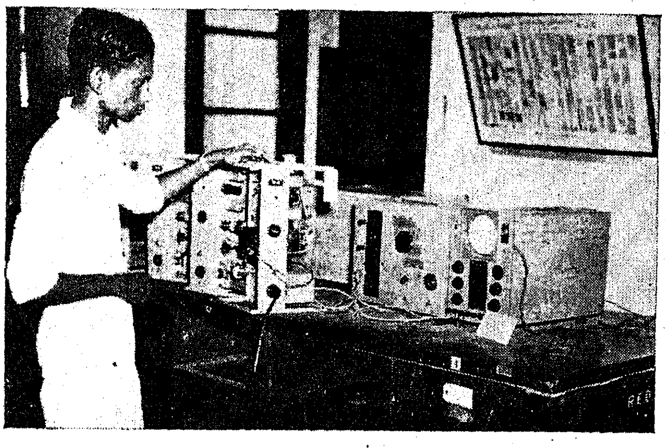
At various times in life virtually everyone must make decisions relative to problems of vocational choice and adjustment. There are various factors which contribute to haphazard choice of vocations. For example, parents who have been successful in an occupation desire their children to follow their footsteps. Also there are cases where parents who see other thriving and prosperous in a job, take a liking to such vocations and insist that their children should also take up the career in which the other individual is successful. In both cases they do not even for a moment think whether their children have the aptitude or capacity to do the jobs which they consider are being done successfully. There are also cases where young persons develop a liking for jobs such as a youngster seeing an individual thriving in a job thinks that he should take up that job, without considering whether or not he has the aptitude and capacity for the job. Another individual who has a craving for travelling may think that he would be best suited a salesman or as a travelling agent, but later when he actually takes up the job, finds that he has not been able to cope up with the travelling and feels disappointed and unhappy.

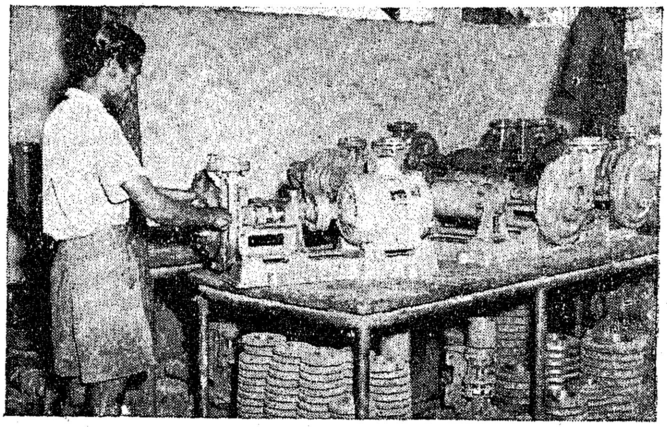


There are many ways in which a youngster could choose a wrong career and waste his life and energy. It is not possible for us to enumerate all the reasons here. However, we may mention a few of them. First and foremost is the lack of information which makes the choice of jobs unnecessarily small. In some cases, it may be that only a part of the picture of an occupation is known to the boy or at least he does not think of the other side. Still more dangerous is the situation that hundreds of occupations are completely unknown, their existence never having been heard of and with the technical and academical development of the country, this feature assumes greater proportion.

Industrialization means that a great deal of growing sector of the world of occupation becomes unfamiliar and remains to be explored by juveniles. When jobs were being done in the open under the public eye, there was facility to observe and know the jobs for which they can train themselves. Now, when jobs and industries are confined to the four walls of a workshop or factory, it becomes a secret and mystery and people normally do not get to know such jobs. Investigations in many countries have revealed that occupational preferences of most of the boys cluster around some well-known occupations only and this is a pointer to the fact that they do not know of the existence of many others. When they are informed of the other occupations and the possibilities that await them in such occupations, they readily agree to be trained for such posts.

Vocational mal-adjustment leads to bad consequences of different sorts in varying degrees ranging from mild dissatisfaction to serious effects of one's mental and physical health. These ill-consequences involve not only the individual's health, happiness and efficiency, but in some cases affect his family's well-being and harmony. Vocational guidance is thus a measure to promote usually the well-being of the individual and is on a par with other social measures, such as medical aid, economic improvement, etc.





Vocational Guidance—Utility.

For society and Nation, vocational guidance aims at an effective use of manpower and greater efficiency and economy in the execution of work in industry, business and Government offices. Though it is not possible to estimate the financial loss which vocational misfits cause each year, the sums wasted through vocational mal-adjustment and inefficiency must be enormous.

They need authentic information about the different occupations, the methods of entry in these occupations and a good counsel before they can decide their own suitability for one occupation or another. "What am I best suited for? Which trades shall I learn of which profession shall I follow? In what occupation can I find employment and earn a living, while doing a job that I like to do well?" These are some of the questions likely to arise in the minds of young school-leavers. The purpose of vocational guidance is to ensure that such questions are raised and answered properly.

As counselling process would consist almost more than one interview, usually the preliminary information is obtained from the client in the first interview and subsequently followed up. The counselling process may include the administration of tests, but they are usually administered after some information is obtained from the client and their results are interpreted and explained in subsequent interviews. Test results are useful not only to the counsellor in his appraisal of the client, but also the client himself. The meaning and implication of the results are to be incorporated by the client in his own thinking. Hence, the techniques involved in the interpretation of test results are also important.

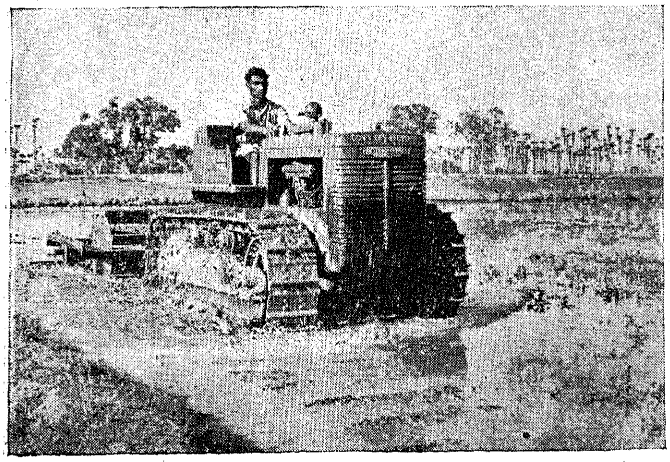
Vocational guidance is a helping discipline. It has no other justification for existence than to assist people in their occupational adjustment in a manner that will be truly beneficial to those in need of help. To attain

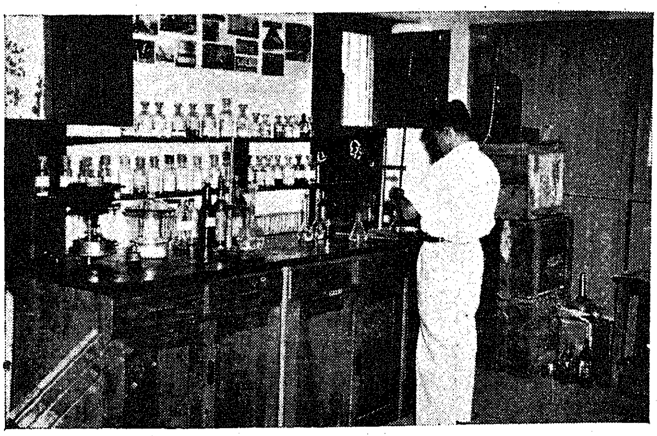
this objective, the vocational counseller utilises his interviewing skill, his knowledge regarding occupations, his aptitude, his familiarity with psychological dynamics, and psychometric data. In addition to his professional training, the counseller will also convey to the client that he is genuinely interested in the latter's problems, that he tries to understand the client's needs and respects the client's right to differ from him. The professionally disciplined counsellor has no other interest in the client than to help him with the problems under consideration. He, therefore, refrains from doing anything that does not in some way facilitate the helping process, for example, the counsellor will not ask his client any questions, no matter how intriguing they may seem to him unless the answers to these questions help the client to resolve his dilemma.

Vocational guidance is limited by many factors. Its scope varies for different groups of individuals.

In a country like India unemployment is considerable and economic conditions poor, the necessity of earning a livelihood limits the scope of occupational choice considerably whereas in a country like United Kingdom where there is a shortage of labour, the scope is definitely greater. Entry is also limited by a shortage of training institutions.

One of the methods used in Vocational Guidance is matching the qualities of the individual with the requirements of job. Although the techniques of analysing the individual and jobs have made great advances, it must be admitted that we shall probably never know enough about individuals and jobs and intensive study is therefore essential in this field. Even if we know enough in terms of the degree and kind of intelligence, aptitudes, interests and personality qualities required by the occupations, there are certain aspects of the jobs which cannot be ascertained. Adjustment to a job depends upon the social atmosphere prevailing in the job situation, the personality of the boss, the working conditions of the job, etc.





Even though the individual is technically competent for the job, he may remain unadjusted on account of unfavourable conditions in various respects.

Due to the large number of candidates we shall be encountering at the Employment Offices it may not be practicable to give everyone individual guidance. Therefore, group guidance to all and individual guidance to a few would seem to be a modest beginning for the present.

The needs of the youth today are great indeed. To fulfil them is a stupendous task. The Vocational Guidance unit has been entrusted with the responsibility of aiding the youths of today to take their place as productive citizens in the society of to-morrow. This responsibility is great enough to be challenging in nature, and this fact makes it an interesting one. The Vocational Guidance Centre strated at the Employment Office, Madras, is in its infancy and subject to various limitations in its working, but it looks forward with pride, pleasure and optimism to being of service to those in need of assistance.

Post-Graduate Courses in Madras Veterinary College

The Government of Madras have decided to develop the Madras Veterinary College into a regional post-graduate training centre in Veterinary and Animal Husbandry subjects commencing from the year 1958–59. A two-year course of training will be instituted leading to the Post-graduate M.V.Sc. degree in the following subjects:—

Group 1.—(*a*) Animal Nutrition; (*b*) Animal Genetics; and (*c*) Dairy Science.

Group 2.—(*a*) Pathology; (*b*) Bacteriology; and (*c*) Parasitology.

Group 3.—(*a*) Physiology; (*b*) Pharmocology; and (*c*) Therapeutics.

Group 4.—(*a*) Anatomy; (*b*) Surgery; and (*c*) Gynæcology.

Group 5.—(*a*) Medicine; (*b*) Hygiene; and (*c*) Meat Inspection.

SCIENCE ON THE MARCH

Airliners of the future.

Airliners will cruise at 600 miles an hour by 1960, and at 2,500 miles an hour within the next half century, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, Chairman of the board of an American air lines company, predicted recently.

Passengers will then be able " to cross the United States in scarcely more than an hour, span the Atlantic in less than two hours, and cross the Pacific in scarcely four hours," he said.

Rickenbacker added that during the next 50 years " Space ships may become commonplace for inter-planetary travel. With luxuries accommodations for 1,500 to 2,000 passengers, they will use atomic power to develop speeds up to 5,000 miles per hour or better, and will have a practically unlimited range ".

Wood wastes furnish nitrogen fertiliser.

Wood wastes are expected to furnish a valuable source of nitrogen fertiliser in the immediate future. Experiments at the Los Angeles agricultural laboratories of the University of California tested fir and pine sawdust as nitrogen carries in a successful search for long-lasting fertilisation materials for chrysanthemum growers.

The product, not yet commercially available, is made by treating wood-pulp cellulose with acid and adding ammonia gas. Somewhat like coarse sawdust, it not only supplies nitrogen to plants over a long period but has a favourable soil conditioning effect.

New translating machine.

An electronic machine which translates Russian into English has been devised by a Russian-born woman philology expert at the Georgetown University Institute of Languages and Linguistics in Washington, D.C.

Miss Ariadne Lukjanow claimed the machine which operates on the basis of substituting mathematical symbols for grammar can translate 30,000 words within five hours. She revealed that the machine operates through a code which establishes an equal sign between the two languages and thus provides bilingual grammar.

Antibiotic for tropical diseases.

The antibiotic preparations Signemycin (Tetracycline and oleandomycin) and Matroterra (oxytetracycline and oleandomycin) have been successful against all but four out of 429 cases of stubborn tropical diseases, according to U.S. medical researchers.

These two antibiotic preparations were used on the Island of Haiti for a period of two years. About two-thirds of the patients were given Signemycin while the other one-third received Matroterra. Both products showed a high degree of therapeutic effectiveness.

Of 172 cases of yaws, only one patient relapsed. There were no relapses in 106 cases of Lymphopathia venerum, nor in 63 cases of tropical ulcers, although deep, well-established ulcers took from three to four weeks to resolve. Of 88 cases of chronic intestinal amebic dysentery, only three patients relapsed.

Space radios.

Two large radio telescopes designed for more accurate reception of signals from outer space will be developed by a firm in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The devices, with dish-like receivers 85 feet in diameter, would pick up and transmit radio waves given off by the sun, the planets and other galaxies.

The telescope would be directed at a space object and moved to follow its course. The receiver would pick up radio waves from its target which would be transmitted to electronic instruments where they would be amplified and analysed.

Relief for skin disorders.

New medication to combat psoriasis, a skin condition which produces extensive scaly red patches and other lesions, has been developed in the United States. Accordingly to Dr. Joseph L. Hollander of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, triamcinolone, related to cortisone, has brought about full or partial obliteration of psoriasis in 13 to 17 patients. The drug has also allayed the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis.

(*Continued on page 27*)

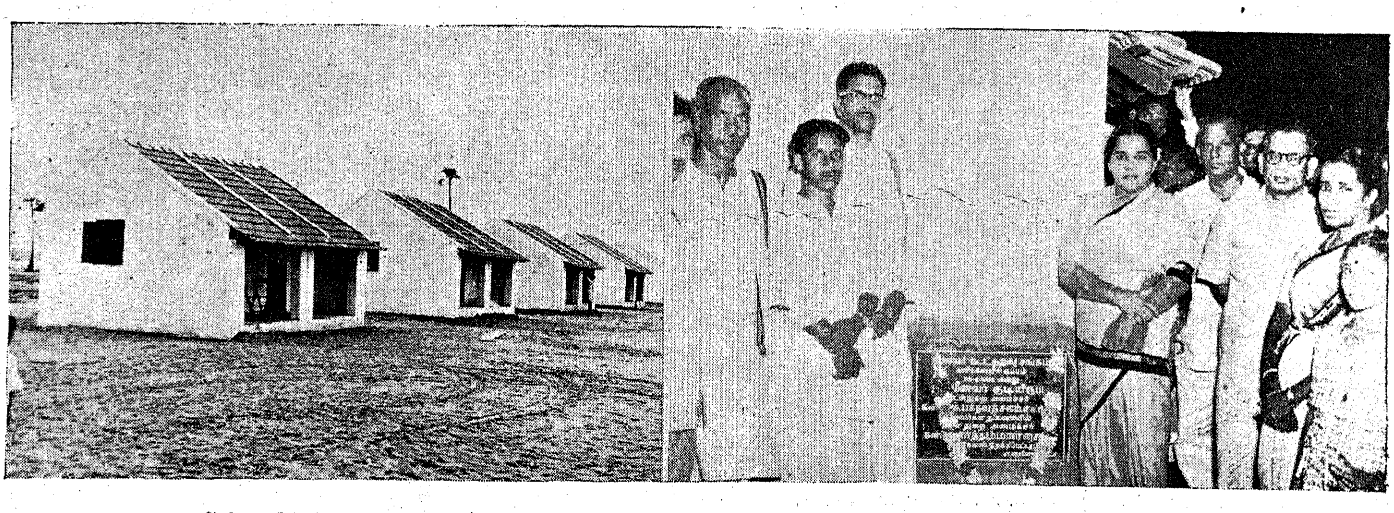
Mechanisation of Fishing Industry

Activities of the Department in 1957-58

The Madras State has a coastline of 620 miles and about 4 lakhs acres of inland water; and therefore rich in fisheries. The Fisheries Department, established in 1907, has a comprehensive programme for the development of the Fishing Industry, based on a policy of survey and expansion of fishing grounds, improving fishing method, conservation and judicious exploitation of inland fisheries, initiation and co-ordination of research, organization of the fish trade on proper lines and the improvement of socio-economic condition of the fisher-folk.

During the year under review, the fish production in the State was about 1·08 lakhs tons and the per capita consumption of fish was 11·3 lb.

For this increased production, 15 schemes with a total outlay of 17·90 lakhs rupees were implemented under the Second Five-Year Plan. These schemes were directed towards increasing the supply of fishery, requisites to the fishermen at concessional rates and also towards the mechanisation of fishing operations. While increased supply of fishery requisites has helped in keeping up the production by indigenous methods, the introduction of mechanised fishing has definitely increased the catches, the average increase being 2 to 3 times. The Fisheries Department has launched programmes for mechanisation of indigenous craft and introduction of improved designs of fishing boat, with the assistance of F.A.O. Naval Architects. Forty-two mechanised boats have so far been constructed and given to fishermen co-operatives and fishermen groups on hire-purchase system together with the required sets of Nylon nets and twine. New type of surf landing crafts to replace conventional catamarans are also being developed and undergoing trials. A departmental boat-building yard is also being set up near Madras; and all preliminary work for this has been completed during the year. With the help of a F.A.O. Fisheries Engineer, exploratory fishing with different types of powered vessels and gear has resulted in the location of new fishing grounds off Pulicat, Ennore, Madras, Sadras, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Adirampatinam, Pamban, Rameswaram, Dhanushkodi, Kilakarai, Tuticorin, Capecomerin and Colachel. To enable the fishermen to undertake mechanised fishing, 60 fishermen candidates were trained during the year at the training centres at Nagapattinam and Tuticorin. In order to cope with the development of power fishing, the department, with the help of two F.A.O. Fishing Harbour specialists, made a survey of suitable sites along the coast for the establishment of fishing harbours with facilities for processing, storage and transport. Plans and estimates for fishing harbours at Cuddalore and Nagapattinam were drawn up; and preliminary work for their execution was completed· The construction of an ice plant with capacity for a daily output of 5 tons with storage facilities for 15 tons is progressing at Tuticorin. To facilitate quick transport of fish from important production centres to consuming centres without spoilage and thus to enable the fishermen to obtain better returns to their efforts, the department plied 9 motor vans by levying very nominal hire from fishermen co-operative societies.



Srimathi Lourdhammal Simon, Minister for Fisheries, inaugurated a Fishermen's Colony at Kasikoil Kuppam near Ennore on June 28, 1958.

Besides, 4 vans and 9 three-wheeler labroetas were also given to fishermen societies on hire-purchase basis. The existing fish markets in seven important centres were improved by granting financial aid to the concerned local bodies with a view to better hygienic display and sale of fish and to attract the public to buy and consume fish. Nineteen fish-curing yards were maintained by the department for supply of good quality salt to fish curers at subsidized rates. During the year under review, 5,200 tons of cured fish were thus produced and made available to the public. Arrangements were also made to procure machinery for the erection of fishmeal plants at Nagapattinam and Tuticorin for profitable utilization of surplus catches.

There was progressive increase in production of fish from inland waters with increased utilization of water areas for fish culture. About 3·12 crores of spawn, Fry and Fingerlings of economic food fishes were collected from natural sprawning and nursery area and from departmental farms and stocked in public waters to the maximum possible extent to enrich their fishery wealth. Special attention was paid to the development of fisheries in the reservoirs constructed in connection with Rivery Valley Projects—The Mettur Dam Reservoir in Salem district, Poondy Reservoir in Chingleput district, Veeranadam Reservoir in South Arcot district, Bhavanisagar and Amaravathisagar in Coimbatore district, Sathanur Reservoir in North Arcot district and Manimuthar Reservoir in Tirunelveli district were stocked with about 10 lakhs fishings. Of these, the Mettur Reservoir alone yielded 400 tons of fish. For the proper distribution and utilization of this catch, a 5-ton-*cum*-15-ton ice and cold storage plant is being installed at Mettur Dam. With a view to encourage private enterprises in fish culture, the department maintained 70 Rural Fishery Demonstration Centres to educate the public in piscicultural technique and to induce them to take to fish rearing. Work on a model fish farm in Adyar was also initiated during the year for developing brackish water fisheries.

Fisher-folk were assisted by the department to pay their due share for increasing fish production and distribution through the Co-operative Movement which has been gaining popularity among them. So far 172 Fishermen Co-operative Societies and 5 District Co-operative Federations have been organized. Through these co-operative societies the fishermen were given 3·5 lakh rupees as long-term loans during the year, with a view to afford them with the necessary credit facilities for the elimination of middle men, purchase of domestic as well as production requirements, construction of curing sheds, godowns and market for marketing fish and fish products.

(Continued from page 25.)

Drs. Ashton L. Welsh and Mitchell Ede of Cincinnati also reported a tarhormone cream called Tarcortin, a mixture of the adrenal cortex hormone, hydrocortisone, with a coal-tar substance, also relieved psoriasis.

Heat by the yard.

A kit that will enable laboratory technicians and process engineers to " cut themselves a length of heat " and apply it to any complex shape that would otherwise pose a difficult heating problem is to be displayed in Germany by a British firm. Known as " Heat-by-the-Year ", the system consists of a continuous network of resistance wires enclosed in a knitted elastic sleeve of glass-fibre yarn that can be wrapped like tape around any shape. It is to be shown at the Chemical Engineering Exhibition in Frankfurt (May 31 to June 8).

The tape is made in half-inch and one-inch over-all widths and supplied in kits in lengths of 25 feet or 50 feet together with terminal fixings. The electrical resistance has been so arranged that a normal working length of 12 feet would require 120 volts, while a 23 feet length would need 230 volts to obtain maximum temperatures. Nickel wire is used in the resistance network, and this will attain its nominal rating of 200–250°C.

Extension of camphor and vanilla cultivation in the South.

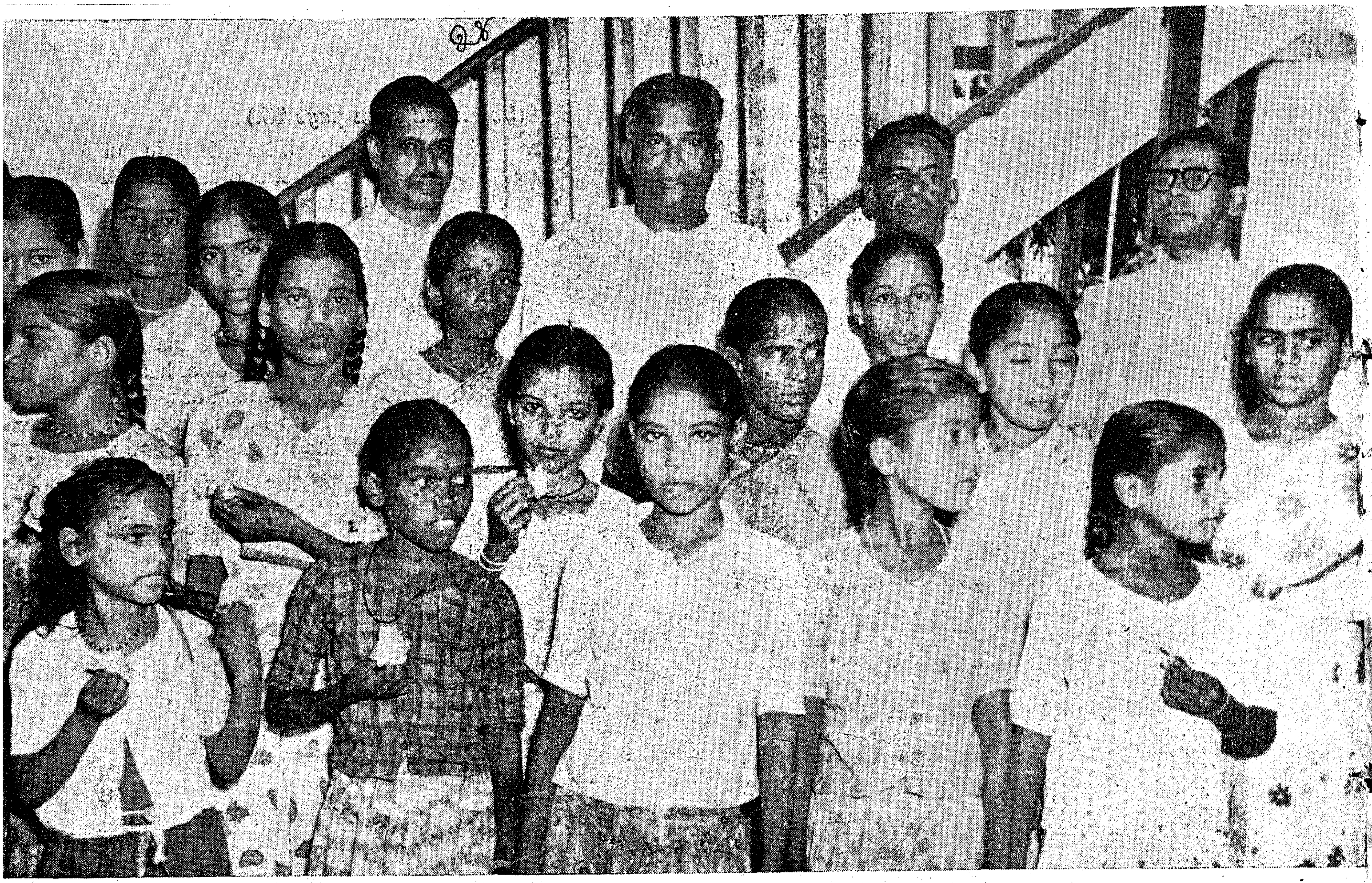
Two research schemes—one for camphor cultivation and the other for vanilla—have been approved by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the current year.

The schemes, the duration of which is five years in each case, will be put into practice at a plantation or a farm at Wynad in Kerala State, one of the largest of its kind in the world. The amount sanctioned for the first scheme is Rs. 44,800 and for the second Rs. 87,830.

The object of the first scheme is to study manurial requirements of camphor trees or increasing total yields of camphor and camphor-oil contents which have a medicinal value.

The second scheme, which relates to research and development of vanilla cultivation, envisages setting up of an experimental station at Wynad.

The camphor yields in South India are also four times higher than those in the North. By raising yields through improved methods, camphor can become a supplementary commercial crop for agriculturists in South India.



The Government Kasturba Hostel for Harijan Girls was declared open on 18th June by the Minister for Harijan Welfare, Sri P. Kakkan.

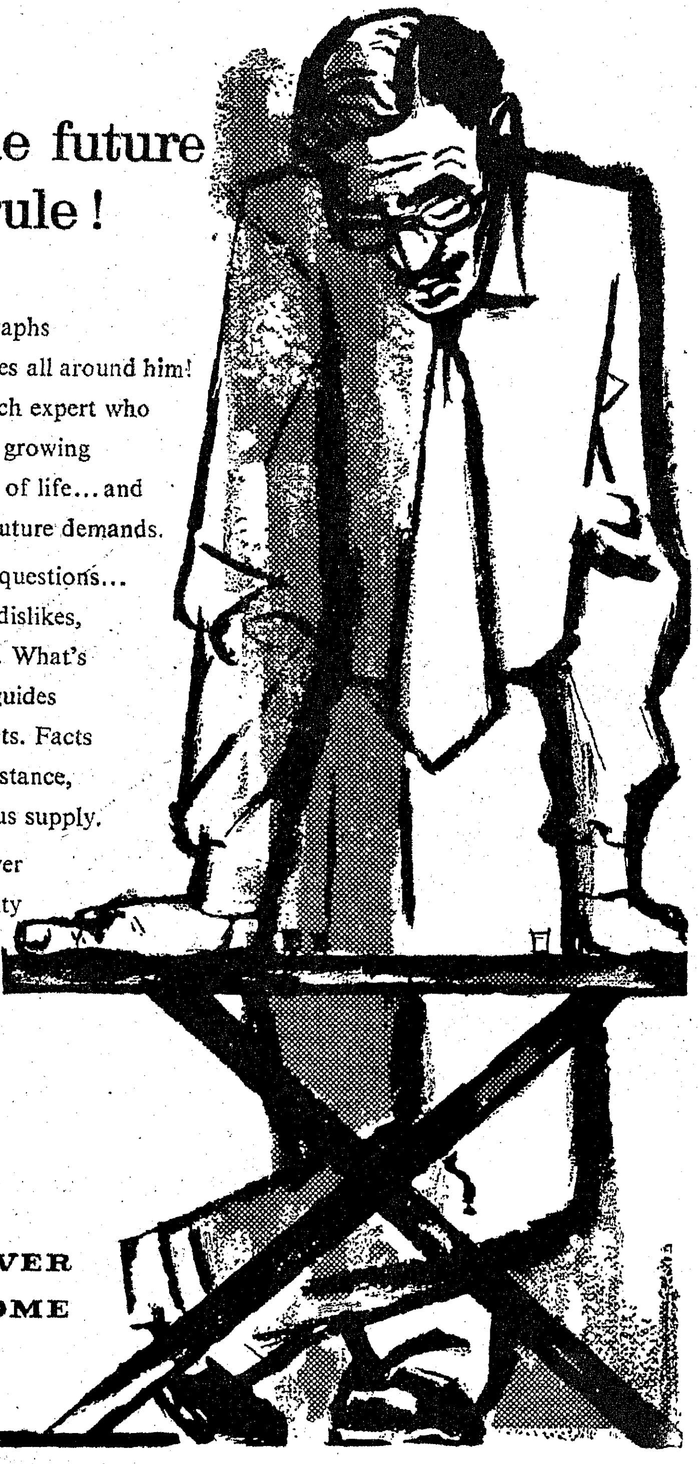
Government Take Over Harijan Hostels

Education of Harijans forms the main plank in the ameliorative work of the Harijans in this State. Harijans living in remote villages found it difficult to take advantage of the schooling facilities available in urban areas. So the problem of accommodating these Harijans was facing the Government. Some of the social workers came forward to set up hostels for lodging these students. The Government encouraged the starting of such hostels by agreeing to give subsidies at the rate of Rs. 15 per boarder for a period of ten months in a year. The Government also started a few hostels wherever private persons did not come forward for starting the hostels. Thus at the commencement of the Second Five-Year Plan period there were 242 subsidized hostels and 25 Government hostels. During the last few years it was observed that some of these subsidized hostels have not been working properly with the result that the students were put to considerable difficulties. The Government therefore reviewed the working of subsidized hostels and examined whether it will not be desirable for the Government to take over and run such of the subsidized hostels which have not been working satisfactorily. It was accordingly decided that the Government should take over by stages the subsidized hostels beginning with those that have not been working satisfactorily.

In pursuance of this policy the Government took over under their management 31 subsidized hostels during 1957–58 and 24 during 1958–59. The Government started two new hostels during 1957–58.

The Government have also discouraged the starting of new hostels and are not now recognizing fresh hostels for the grant of subsidy. Wherever the need for a hostel is felt, the Government themselves are making necessary arrangements for opening a hostel.

He studies the future with a slide-rule!



Charts in front of him, graphs behind him, facts and figures all around him! He is the marketing research expert who studies and evaluates your growing needs, your changing ways of life... and gives us a clue as to your future demands.

Yes, we are always asking questions... finding out your likes and dislikes, your suggestions and ideas. What's more, marketing research guides us in making better products. Facts about raw materials, for instance, help us to ensure continuous supply.

In this way, Hindustan Lever provides you with the quality products you want, at economical prices.

HINDUSTAN LEVER
SERVES THE HOME

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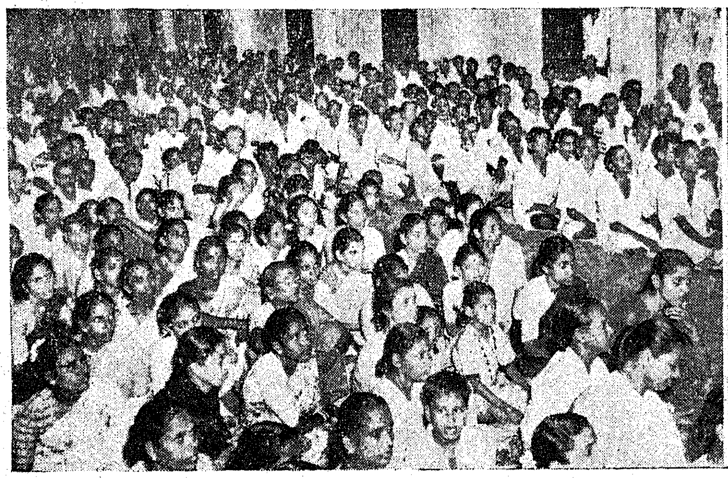
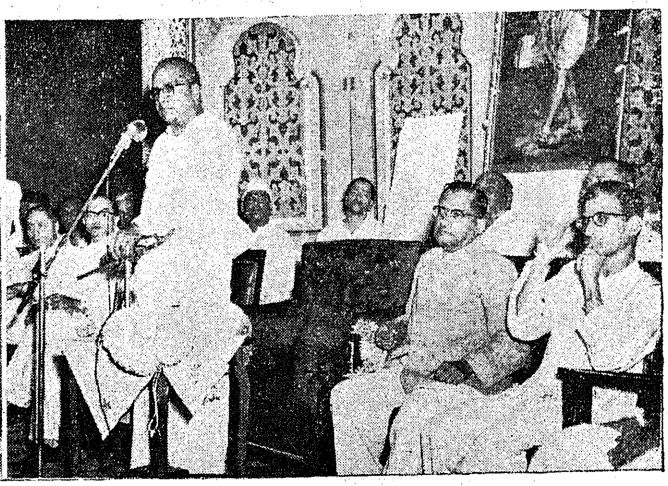
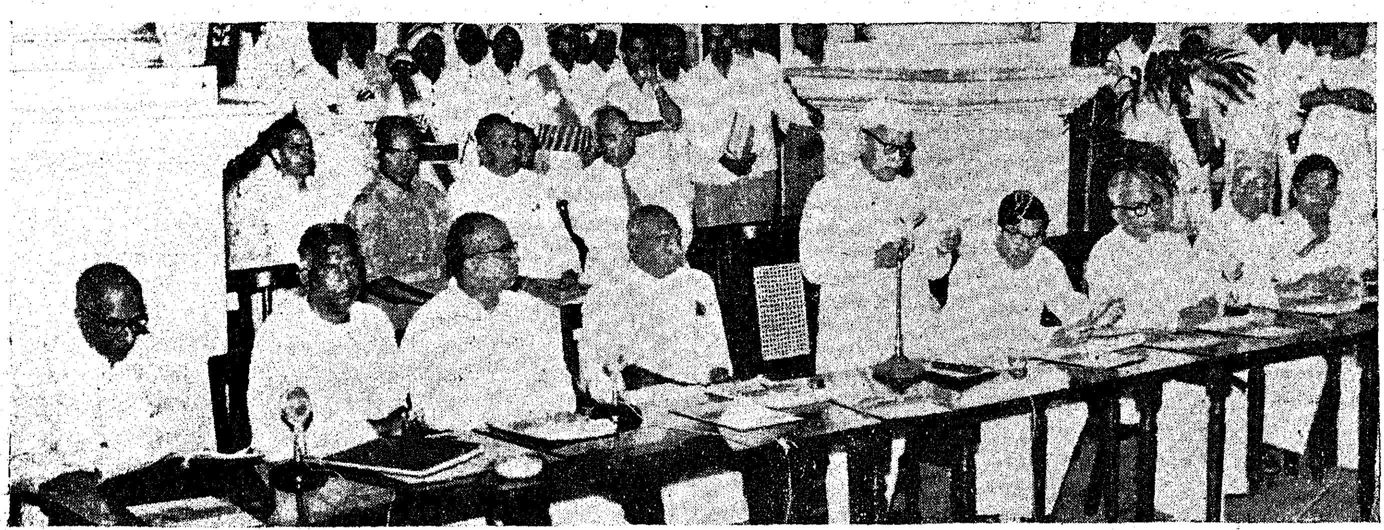



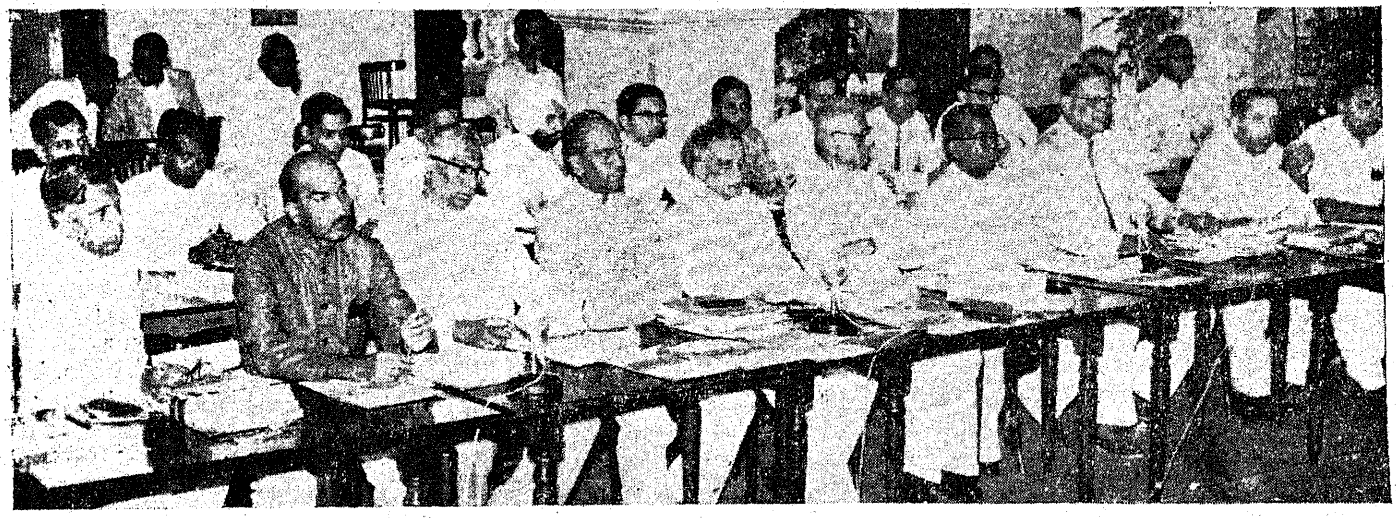
The "Unity Festival" of the Madras Government Press Workers' Union was celebrated on 7th July with Sri V. Ramaiah, Minister for Electricity and Stationery and Printing in the chair. The photos show the Minister addressing the gathering and a section of the gathering.

IN THE NEWS

Ministerial level talks were held on 21st June between the States of Madras and Kerala on the diversion of Parambikulam Waters to Madras. The Chief Ministers and other Ministers of Madras and Kerala took part in it.

To meet the Collectors and Officers attending the Two-Day Collectors' Conference in the City, the Governor gave a tea party at Raj Bhavan, Guindy, on 2nd July 1958. In the picture, the Governor and Srimathi Medhi are seen with the guests who attended the party.





Sri Bishnuram Medhi, Governor of Madras, is seen inaugurating the Two-Day Conference of the Collectors of Madras State at Rajaji Hall on the morning of Wednesday (2nd July 1958). The Chief Minister and other Ministers and the Chief Secretary are also seen in the picture.

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4 AUG 1955
MADRAS

PLANTING FOR PROSPERITY

SRI V. S. KRISHNASWAMY, Chief Conservator of Forests.

In Madras State the necessity and importance of Vanamahotsava cannot be over-emphasized for even including the depleted zamindari forests proposed to be reserved, there are only about 8,075 square miles of forests. This represents only 14 per cent of the total land area of the State whereas for this tract the forests should occupy at least a third of the total land extent. Furthermore most of these forests lie in areas of low rainfall, where timber forests cannot exist and even the raising of ordinary forests and trees is a difficult process.

In the first few years of this festival, stress was laid on growing individual trees of economic importance, so that the persons who may plant them, may look after the tiny seedlings till they were established. So far so good, but it could not be said that these plants were looked after; most of them died; the programme did not catch the imagination of the public. A seedling will not grow into a tree unless it is looked after. Provision for after-care will not be possible or economic unless a group of trees is raised in a compact block. Based on the experience of the past, a new orientation has been given this year to this important festival.

The appeal issued in this connexion behoves us to ensure that every residential colony, every factory area, every human dwelling, every waterway, every highway, every patch of cultivation and every playground, village common or open field is planted with trees and shrubs according to plan with a view to beautifying the locality.

This year the emphasis has been shifted to developing what might be described as small wood lots or forests or farm forests. Farm forestry can be broadly defined as the practice of forestry in all its aspects on farm and village lands, generally more or less integrated with other farm operations.

To sum up, an integrated approach will lie in encouraging Vanamahotsava in one's own lands by the owner's efforts and in public lands by institutions, etc.

In this State an erosion survey of all lands outside reserved forests and agricultural fields has been taken up. This survey will give particulars of the ownership of such lands, their extent, their present condition and the use to which they might be put to. The survey which has just now been completed for Chingleput district has brought to light the existence of many blocks of Government-owned land of more than 50 acres in extent which will be suitable for raising forests or/and fodder. The future management of such lands has to be decided and steps taken to clothe them with a green mantle either by public or private agency.

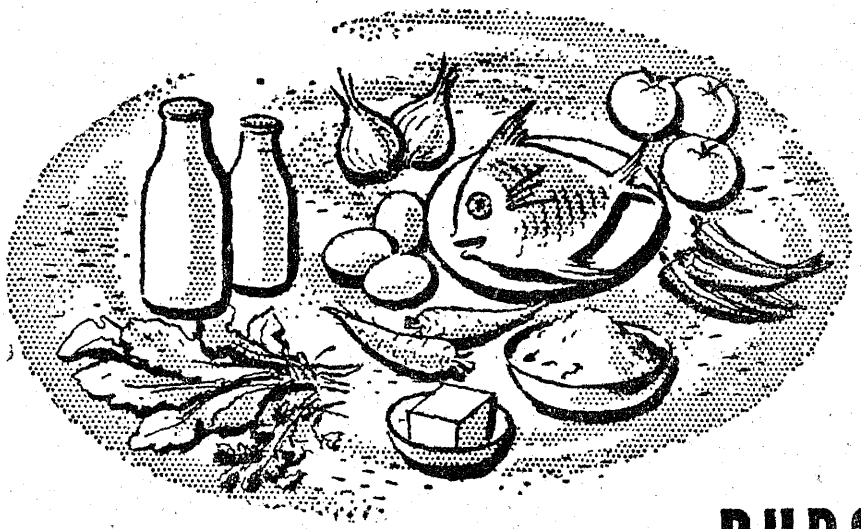
Village Forests:

In his recent appeal Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh has emphasized that village forests should be urgently developed even if it be to assure villagers that their own day-to-day requirements of forest products can be obtained from these forests and make them less dependant on the Reserved Forests of the State.

Farm or village forest planting need not always be on land specifically set apart for the purpose. It may take the form of shelter belts, wind breaks; or avenues along field ridges, canals, roads, etc.

In this connexion let me take you through some of our ancient history in this branch of our activity. This will show how even in the olden days this idea of tree-planting has been practised and has been done systematically with a full knowledge of its importance. Farm forestry is a nice description, but if we explain to the ryots of Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli districts who live in the tract where the westerly winds blow through the Palghat gap, that the practice they have been following from ancient times is farm forestry, they will be very pleased. In the dry fields in this tract it is common practice to see white babul being allowed to grow into trees inside the fields at regular spacing. Where the force of the wind is more we find more of these trees. In some places in Namakkal taluk, the canopy of adjacent trees, even touch each other and such lands appear as if they are forests. Actually they are agricultural fields. Under the canopy of these white babul trees dry field crops are raised. These trees which form a shelter wood minimise wind erosion and also soil desiccation. Their roots are not toxic to the field crop.

Balance your DIET...



and your BUDGET

In these hard days, a balanced diet and a balanced budget seldom go hand in hand as a matter of course. But, with care, they can. Take your diet, of which fats are a necessary and valuable part. India's cattle cannot provide anywhere near the amount of milk products needed to give every adult and growing child their basic need of two ounces of fat per day. And even if it were possible, good ghee and butter would be beyond the reach of the average person's purse.

Now take your budget. All over the world, diet-conscious people faced with the rising cost of living are cooking with wholesome vegetable fats—margarine, shortening and vanaspati—as a good means of keeping meals nourishing and tasty. Besides being good for our health, these vegetable cooking media are economical—a double advantage to the family budget.

Dalda Vanaspati is made from the purest vegetable oils, to which are added 700 International Units of Vitamin A per ounce, the same Vitamin A content as that of good ghee. In addition, Dalda contains 56 units of Vitamin D per ounce. Hygienically manufactured according to Government specifications, Dalda comes in sealed, double-lidded tins. More and more housewives are turning with confidence to Dalda, and relying on it to put *extra nourishment* into food cooked with it.

HVM. 315-X52

A PRODUCT OF HINDUSTAN LEVER LTD., BOMBAY.

Also the pods of these white babul trees are cattle fodder. Local enquiries failed to give a clue to the origin of this practice, but it is believed to be very ancient. In addition to growing trees in the fields, on the field bunds and ridges, palmyras, babul, etc., are also grown. Avenue trees in this tract are also found growing luxuriantly without undue injury from the public. I asked an old ryot as to why he is allowing these white babul trees to grow so thickly in his agricultural field. He told me that the trees existed in his fields even from the time of his forefathers and that if they did not exist, the rich top soil of his field will be lifted by the high winds which occur in the Tamil month of Adi (July-August). These are the south-west monsoon winds. Further the dry crops stay in the field only for a short time. In the rest of the season under the light shade of the trees good grasses also come up and further the pods of these trees are eaten by his goats. He further assured me that if the crops grew in the open, the yield of grain and the crop residue is poorer than in these sheltered fields. Further he said that these trees gave them some fuel, some agricultural implement, etc.

Farm Forestry.

People know the value of " Farm " forestry and they have been practising it from times immemorial even in the unsettled days of the past. I consider that the prevalence of this practice was due to a strong autonomous village Government which was existing in the olden days and which fell into decadance with the advent of the ryotwari system of tenure. In the past it was a common sight, to see in the villages tamarind, illuppai and occasionally mango topes which yielded valuable produce in demand in the villages. Iluppai trees were raised as their seeds yielded oil for burning.

The Tamarind and the Teak.

Incidentally many of you may not know that tamarind is originally a tree of Africa. It has been introduced in India in ancient times and it has flourished extensively in the tropical regions of this sub-continent and it has become a flavouring agent in the culinary preparations of South India. No wonder this tree has been planted for miles and miles as avenue trees and raised as plantations in villages. I found this tree grown as avenue all along the Rani Mangammal road along the coast of Ramanathapuram district. The people of the place told me that according to their tradition the road within their village limits should be maintained from out of the proceeds of the tamarind avenue grown in their village. Similarly there are many irrigation channels which have to be maintained by the public. There is one such channel to my knowledge where the coconut avenues raised on its bunds by co-operative effort are yielding handsome revenues, from which the channel is maintained in good condition. On the other hand there are many channels whose banks are unutilized. Why not grow teak as avenue trees on them? The possibility of growing teak as timber has been more than amply demonstrated in our State, in places where subsoil moisture is high. In similar places some varieties of eucalyptus have flourished very well—in fact much better than even casuarina. These also can be grown. It is hoped that the rejuvenated village panchayats which we are now having in our State will bestow their special attention to the possibility of raising in the waste lands included within their limits, plantations of tamarind, mango, cashew, eucalyptus and teak, and also raise suitable trees as avenue. These valuable trees of utility may also be grown as individual trees by house-holders in the backyard of their dwelling. For roadside avenues, trees which yield leaf fodder and give permanent shade will be suitable. The Vanamahotsava campaign might be utilized to rekindle the evanescent enthuusiasm of the public in the matter of growing trees. Tree memorial parks in which the monuments to people and events may be enshrined in the shape of growing trees may be formed in each village. Of course, those who wish to have their memories perpetuated in this fashion should pay something towards the cost of maintenance of these tree memorial parks. In short all our waste lands should be covered with some green mantle and made to contribute something to meeting the needs of the people regarding forest products and Vanamahotsava in an excellent opportunity towards realising our objective in this regard.

State Transport—June 1958

The fleet strength on 30th June 1958 was 454.

An average number of 339 buses was operated per day and they brought in a total collection of Rupees 14,74,866 and 1,138,704 miles were covered.

Kanyakumari.—An average number of 56 buses was operated and Rs. 2,38,806·11 were collected 821,273 passengers used this service.

Consequent on the stoppage of standing passengers in mofussal buses, the collection per day has fallen by Rs. 700.

Khadi

During the month of June the Department of Khadi produced 242,883-04 yards of Khadi and silk worth Rs. 5,60,414·91. Retail sales amounted to Rupees 1,50,483·10 while Rs. 2,06,831·45 worth of Khadi was sold wholesale.

Malaria Organization in Madras State

Dr. N. PARTHASARATHI, Director of Public Health, Madras.

The origin of a Malaria organization in Madras State can be traced to the establishment of a Malaria Board in 1911. A nucleus for the investigation and control of malaria was formed and was in charge of an I.M.S. officer. This post was abolished in 1914 due to the outbreak of World War I. The Malaria Board was merged then with the newly-formed Public Health Board of the State. The next serious attempt was made in 1927, when a small organization in charge of a Special Malaria Officer was established. In 1929, Col. Sinton, an eminent authority on the subject, was asked for advice. He recommended the institution of a Directorate of Malariology for the State with the creation of anti-malaria units, one for each district or groups of districts according to the needs of the areas. His conception could not be realized owing to financial stringencies in the years that followed.

Though the activities of the State Malaria Organization in those early days were limited in scope and extent, it is a matter of great pride to record the services of pioneers like K. R. Rao and others. The epidemiology of malaria in the State was enquired into and suggestions for malaria control were commended to local bodies for adoption. Unfortunately during those days, such suggestions were either ignored or only partially carried out. So much so, the earlier activities of the State Malaria Organization were mostly confined to the investigatory phase. Conditions improved since 1932 and malaria control began to take its due place in the public health set-up.

It was in the year 1938 that fully organized rural malaria control was established. Two control units, one for the control of irrigation malaria in Tanjore district and the other for land colonization in Malabar district commenced functioning with full complement of technical staff. The results achieved were encouraging and demonstrated that rural malaria control in Madras State was a feasible proposition. From there on, the growth of the organization was steady and in 1944, for effective execution, supervision and control the administration was decentralized and three regional malaria organizations were established, each in charge of an expert Malariologist, Entomologist and ancillary staff. The need for a programme of training and research was keenly felt, which culminated in the establishment of a Bureau of Malariology and a Central Malaria Laboratory in the wake of the Second World War and as a result of the Postwar Reconstruction Programme. To consolidate and further strengthen the existing malaria organisation, the central Bureau of Malaria and Mosquito-borne Diseases was placed in charge of an Assistant Director of Public Health with a Malaria Engineer, a Senior Entomologist, Laboratory Technicians and others to assist him. An additional regional organisation was also created. Posts of a Chief Entomologist in the Central Bureau and Senior Entomologist, one for each regional organization, were created to intensify investigation and control of Malaria. The steady growth of the malaria organization in the State thus assumed a healthy shape about which the State may well be proud of.

As more and more funds became available, more and more endemic and hyper-endemic areas were included for malaria control operations, as also projects and engineering schemes and land colonization operations. Well-defined district schemes were evolved with which the concerned local bodies actively participated, meeting a share of the expenditure as well. The general operational design was more or less on the pattern laid by the Health Survey and Development Committee of India.

As part of her first Five-Year Plan, India launched a national-wide malaria control programme in 1953 to tackle the national scourage, that is, malaria. Two hundred million population, throughout the country, exposed to the risk of malaria, began to be protected. Two decades ago many experts believed that India must remain malarious for a century or longer. To-day it is agreed upon that India could be virtually cleared of malaria within the foreseeable future. To this end in view, very serious thoughts were bestowed on the subject during the past few years. Being perfectionists as also modern scientists, our experts, in consultation with the best 'brain trust' in the world on malaria, have come to the conclusion that the already functioning national malaria control programme be switched on to something that is the very best and not the next best. As a result, a gigantic programme of country-wide Malaria Eradication has been launched with the assistance of certain international agencies. The emphasis has now been shifted from mere "Malaria Control" to "Malaria Eradication". Malaria Eradication is almost within our grip and now is the strategic moment for the maximum co-operative effort of the entire nation. 'Now or never' should be our dictum. If malaria is not conquered now, it can never be later. A mighty effort of the entire nation is needed for the present and the future. Malaria Eradication is one of the noblest of crusades ever launched in the name of humanity and every one must stand by it.

In the month of July . . .

July 1 : The cut in power that has been casting its shadow on the industries in the State has been restored from to-day.

July 2 : The two-day Collectors' conference was inaugurated to-day by the Governor, Sri Bishnuram Medhi.

July 3 : Srimathi Tarkeshwari Sinha, Deputy Minister for Finance, Government of India, arrived in the City on a four-day visit.

The Government ordered supply of water through the Thirumangalam Main Canal of the Vaigai Reservoir Project.

July 4 : The State Development Committee commenced its two-day meeting.

July 6 : A scheme to encourage savings among villagers through distribution of Hundis was inaugurated to-day by Srimathi Tarkeshwari Sinha at Panruti-Kandigai in the Sriperumbudur taluk of Chingleput district.

July 9 : The Government have decided on the formation of a new taluk, Sangari, in the Salem district.

July 12 : The Government have sanctioned long-term loans up to Rs. 20,000 and subsidy to the extent of Rs. 28,000 to Fishermen Co-operatives and Fishermen's Federations which may desire to construct fish godowns and curing sheds.

July 14 : The Government have sanctioned the establishment of four production-*cum*-training centres for silk reeling in the Talavadi firka of Coimbatore district.

July 15 : The Government have passed orders to let waters down the full length of the 39-mile Amaravathi Canal for the benefit of 19,353 acres in Udamalpet and Dharapuram taluks from 1st August 1958.

July 16 : The Governor, Sri Bishnuram Medhi, inaugurated the Vanamahotsava celebrations in the Raj Bhavan, Guindy, this morning.

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